

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

Husband: John Vardaman

Born: Unknown in: Unknown
Married: Unknown in: Unknown
Died: 1714 in: Delaware
Father:
Mother:

Other Spouses:

Wife: Margaret

Born: Unknown in: Unknown
Died: Unknown in: Unknown
Father:
Mother:

Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1	Name: William Vardaman Born: Unknown in: Unknown M Married: 1720 in: Delaware Died: 1783 in: Ninety Six District, South Carolina Spouse: Magdalena Peterson
2	Name: Johannes Vardaman Born: Unknown in: M Married: in: Died: in: Spouse:
3	Name: Christopher Vardaman Born: Unknown in: M Married: in: Died: in: Spouse:
4	Name: Jane Margarite Vardaman Born: Unknown in: F Married: in: Died: in: Spouse:
5	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Spouse:
6	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Spouse:
7	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Spouse:
8	Name: Born: in: Married: in: Died: in: Spouse:

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Vardaman Family

Husband: William Vardaman

Born: Unknown	in: Unknown
Married: 1720	in: Delaware
Died: 1783	in: Ninety Six District, South Carolina
Father: John Vardaman	
Mother: Margaret	
Other Spouses:	

Wife: Magdalena Peterson

Born: Unknown	in: Unknown
Died: Abt 1735	in: Unknown
Father:	
Mother:	
Other Spouses:	

CHILDREN

1	Name: John Vardaman	
	Born: 1722	in: Bedford Co., Virginia
M	Married: 1744	in: Brunswick Co. Virginia
	Died: 1827	in: Grovor's Creek, Missouri
	Spouse: Elizabeth Morgan	
2	Name: William Vardeman	
	Born: Unknown	in:
M	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
3	Name: Peter Vardeman	
	Born: Unknown	in:
M	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
4	Name: Maria Vardeman	
	Born: 1724	in:
F	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
5	Name: Jemima Vardeman	
	Born: 1741	in:
F	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
6	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
7	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
8	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	

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Husband: John Vardaman

Born: 1722	in: Bedford Co., Virginia
Married: 1744	in: Brunswick Co. Virginia
Died: 1827	in: Grovor's Creek, Missouri
Father: William Vardaman	
Mother: Magdalena Peterson	
Other Spouses:	

Wife: Elizabeth Morgan

Born: Unknown	in: Unknown
Died: Unknown	in: Kentucky
Father: Thomas Morgan	
Mother: Esther	
Other Spouses:	

CHILDREN

1	Name: William Vardaman	
	Born: Unknown	in: Unknown
M	Married:	in: Washington Parish, Louisiana
	Died: 1830	in: Washington Parish, Louisiana
	Spouse: Ann Ayres	
2	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
3	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
4	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
5	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
6	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
7	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
8	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	

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Husband: William Vardaman

Born: Unknown in: Unknown
Married: in: Washington Parish, Louisiana
Died: 1830 in: Washington Parish, Louisiana
Father: John Vardaman
Mother: Elizabeth Morgan
Other Spouses:

Wife: Ann Ayres

Born: Unknown in: Louisiana
Died: 1830 in: Washington Parish, Louisiana
Father:
Mother:
Other Spouses:

CHILDREN

1	Name: Jemima Vardaman Born: December 12, 1798	in: Unknown
F	Married: 1818 Died: August 14, 1852 Spouse: Aaron J. Spell	in: St. Tammany Parish, LA in: Lexington, Holmes County, Mississippi
2	Name: Jeremiah K. Vardaman Born: 1787	in:
M	Married: Died: Spouse:	in: in:
3	Name: Elijah Vardaman Born: 1796	in:
M	Married: Died: Spouse:	in: in:
4	Name: John Vardaman Born: Unknown	in:
M	Married: Died: Spouse:	in: in:
5	Name: William Ayers Vardaman Born: Unknown	in:
M	Married: Died: Spouse:	in: in:
6	Name: Mary(Polly) Vardaman Born: March 06, 1797	in:
F	Married: Died: Spouse:	in: in:
7	Name: Amaziah Vardaman Born: Unknown	in: Unknown
M	Married: Died: Unknown Spouse:	in: in: Unknown
8	Name: Rhoda Vardaman Born: 1790	in:
F	Married: Died: Spouse:	in: in:

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9	Name: Anne Vardaman	
F	Born: Unknown	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
10	Name: Sally Vardaman	
F	Born: Unknown	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
11	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
12	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
13	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
14	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
15	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
16	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
17	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
18	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
19	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	

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Husband: Aaron J. Spell

Born: July 14, 1793	in: Louisiana
Married: 1818	in: St. Tammany Parish, LA
Died: November 25, 1852	in: Lexington, Holmes County, Mississippi
Father: John Spell, Jr.	
Mother: Sarah Westcot	
Other Spouses:	

Wife: Jemima Vardaman

Born: December 12, 1798	in: Unknown
Died: August 14, 1852	in: Lexington, Holmes County, Mississippi
Father: William Vardaman	
Mother: Ann Ayres	
Other Spouses:	

CHILDREN

1	Name: Ann Spell	
F	Born: August 05, 1822	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
2	Name: John Spell	
M	Born: January 29, 1825	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
3	Name: Jeremiah V. Spell	
M	Born: November 05, 1829	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
4	Name: Thomas G. Spell	
M	Born: 1833	in: MS
	Married:	in:
	Died: Unknown	in: MS
	Spouse: Margaret S. Morris	
5	Name: Martha E. Spell	
F	Born: September 01, 1836	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
6	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
7	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	
8	Name:	
	Born:	in:
	Married:	in:
	Died:	in:
	Spouse:	

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I am listing below some information regarding our presumed original immigrant and his immediate family:

John¹ Vardaman - who left will in Delaware in 1714

Wife: Margaret

Children: (a) Johannes (an adult away from home)

(b) Christopher (a minor)

(c) William¹ (a minor)

(d) Jane Margarite (a minor)

(a) **Johannes Vardaman**

Wife: Unknown

Children: William (wife Elinor)

Christopher

Jacob

(b) **William¹ Vardaman**

Wife: (1) Magdalena Peterson, md. in 1720

(2) Bridget Tinkler, md. in 1740s(?)

Children: John²

William²

Peter

James

(d) **Jane Margarite (Margaret) Vardaman**

Husband: James Senexon, md. in 1730

With regard to the above:

(1) We have no information concerning John¹'s son Christopher.

(2) Johannes' sons, William and Christopher, remained in Delaware at least through 1750. William was apparently deceased ca 1755 but left a son William of whom we know nothing. This latter William was apparently still in the New Castle area of Delaware as late as 1786.

(3) Johannes' son Jacob apparently went to North Carolina where there is a record of him in various deeds in Chatham Co. in the 1780s. In addition, a Mary Virdiman (sic) married an Abner Blanchard in Chowan Co., NC. We assume that this Mary was probably a daughter of Jacob.

(4) Johannes' son Christopher sold his lands in New Castle, DL, to his brother William in 1748.

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- (5) A Henry Vardaman and a Christopher Vardaman are involved in land transactions in Sussex Co., DL, in 1782. Whether this Christopher is son of John¹ or son of Johannes is undetermined. I wonder if this Christopher is son of Johannes and Henry his son. Henry paid taxes in Norfolk Co., VA, in 1787.
- (6) A Christopher Vardaman entered into a marriage contract with Nancy Etheridge in Chesapeake Co., VA, in 1814. Again, just which Christopher this may be is undetermined, although it is surely not Christopher, son of John¹, who would be over 100 years old by this time.
- (7) Johannes and his sons may have had daughters of whom we know nothing.
- (8) William¹ is known to have had daughters. We know the names of at least two: Maria, baptized in Wilmington, DL, in 1724 and Jemima baptized in what was then Goochland Co., VA, in 1741. We are pretty sure that there were more -- possibly several more -- tentatively including a Frances, wife of Peter Bennett of Bedford Co, VA. He died in Bedford Co. ca 1788. Another daughter may have married a Clements in VA. There was also a Mary Vardaman who married Adam Epting who was killed in the Revolutionary War in South Carolina.

The above pretty well exhausts our knowledge of Johannes and his sons, as well as our knowledge of Christopher, son of John¹. Additional records for these Vardamans has never turned up in all of the research done to date. I suspect that these lines probably died out at a fairly early date.

You will note that, except for the comment about his possible daughters, I have not included information for William¹, son of John¹. This is because all of the Vardaman data that has been uncovered, other than that mentioned above, involves him and his descendants and is discussed at length in the Commentary on the Deck Letters.

In all of the correspondence that I have seen, both my own and that of other Vardaman family researchers, descendants of William¹ are involved. At this point I have to believe that all of the Vardamans in America today descend from him.

There are so many Williams involved in the Commentaries that even with superscript numbers they are difficult to keep straight. I have listed below a short chart to try to show the relationship of the various Williams. Note that I have included only the descendants of William¹, son of John¹. William, son of Johannes, and his son William are not included:

William¹, son of John¹
 William², son of William¹
 William³, son of William²
 William⁶, son of William³

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John², son of William¹

William⁴, son of John² [*this is your William*]

James, son of William¹

William⁵, son of James

The William⁵ shown above is a brother of my ggg-grandfather, Thomas. A younger brother in this family was Joseph. These three brothers married three Vining sisters, daughters of Shadrack and Pherebe (Ratcliff) Vining:

William⁵ married Ruth Vining in Jefferson Co., GA, ca 1801

Thomas married Annie Vining in Jefferson Co., GA, ca 1803

Joseph married Rachel Vining in Jefferson Co., GA, ca 1803

Annie and Rachel were twins and they married the Vardaman brothers in a double ceremony. This set the stage for a lot of double first cousins.

Note the similarity of the above with the situation in the family of William⁴ Vardaman (your line), where 3 of his daughters married 3 Spell brothers. And this would be in the same generation.

But both of the above fall short when compared with the family of William⁵ and Ruth (Vining) Vardaman. Four of their children, two sons and two daughters, married four siblings of the family of Thomas and Rebecca (Cleckley) Roberson:

Porter R. Vardaman married Matilda Roberson in Bibb Co., AL, in 1829

Rachel Vardaman married Washington Barrett Roberson, date and place unknown

Washington Bennett Vardaman married Elizabeth Roberson in Shelby Co., AL, in 1833

Epsie D. Vardaman married Thomas Roberson, Jr., in Talladega Co., AL, in 1835

All of the above families eventually settled in the same area (Fayetteville, AL). Can you comprehend the "mess" of double first cousins who lived in the same vicinity? The Thomas Roberson, Jr., family later came to spell their name as "Robinson". Why? No one knows.

I am also enclosing a copy of a letter that I wrote to Sheila Williamson in Seattle, WA. It may have been she that put my name on Prodigy. This letter lists many enclosures. While I am including some of these with this letter, I have omitted certain others as follows:

Number 2 (two letters from Dorothy Deck) which are included in the Deck file enclosed.

Number 10 (letter from E. P. Moore) regarding name origin.

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Number 11 which deals almost specifically with my line and included nothing which is not covered in other enclosed material.

Please note the various lists of children of John² and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman. If we remove Peter's name from all of the lists (he was a brother of John², not his son) the following occurs:

Mrs. Hudson's list is reduced to 10
Mrs. Remund's list is reduced to 11
Mrs. Tierney's list is reduced to 11
Mrs. Tolbert's list is reduced to 11

I have skipped Mrs. Gilbert's list as it contained only 7 names. Also, Sheila Williamson's list, which is not included in my letter to her, contains 12 names also. Her list is the same as Mrs. Hudson's but with the addition of Minnie as a daughter. Her list is reduced to 11 also when we remove Peter.

Now, if we add the name of Elizabeth, wife of William Menafee, who has been identified as one of John² and Elizabeth's children, but is not included in any of the above lists, we bring Mrs. Remund's, Mrs. Tierney's, Mrs. Tolbert's and Sheila's lists back to the legendary 12 children. It also brings Mrs. Hudson's list to 11. She has not included the child (unnamed) who died as an infant and which is included on 3 of the other 4 lists. If we add this infant child to her list it brings her total to 12 also. However, if we add this infant to Sheila's list it increases to 13 instead of 12. Except for this one discrepancy, these lists are quite consistent and agree with the various biographies of the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman which all include the information that he was the youngest of 12 children.

With regard to the Minnie Vardaman mentioned by Sheila Williamson as a daughter of John²: She is shown as marrying William Green Clark, July 1, 1785, in Lincoln Co., KY. At this time, I do not know how to account for her. If she is a daughter of John² and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman, she would bring the number of children to 13. She cannot be one of the 4 known daughters in this family as we have the marriage records for 3 and the name of a husband for the 4th:

Mary Magdalene to Simon Cockrell in 1765
Letitia to a McGathy/McGatha
Jemima to William Pope in 1785
Elizabeth to William Menafee in 1774

It is possible that Minnie could be a grand daughter.

By the way, you will note that my letter to Sheila identifies both Mrs. Hudson and Mrs. Tolbert as descendants of William⁴ and Ann (Ayers) Vardaman, the same as you. Both of these ladies descended through William⁴'s son, Elijah: Mrs. Hudson thru Elijah's son, Ayers Augustus.

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Mrs. Tolbert did not identify thru which child of Elijah she descends, mentioning only that he was her grandfather.

It is Mrs. Tolbert who has raised the question as to who Elijah's father may have been. She believes that it was possibly Amaziah rather than his brother William and bases this on the premise that Amaziah was in the Natchez area as early as 1790. This, of course, is incorrect. Amaziah was still in Kentucky in late 1791 when he married Nancy Wright. On the other hand, we know that William⁴ came to the Natchez area ca 1790. This does not preclude Amaziah coming to this area at some later date but I believe that all of the known facts lean toward the conclusion that the Amaziah in Mississippi was at least a generation younger than the Amaziah in Kentucky.

Although I failed to mention it when discussing the above in my Commentary on Mrs. Kathryn Watkins' letter, there is another item which could point towards the Amaziah in Kentucky not being the same as the Amaziah in Mississippi. Rev. J. M. Peck in his biography of the life of Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman specifically mentions that John²'s son William (*this would be William⁴*) removes to the Natchez area. He does not mention Amaziah at all. If the departure of brother William for Natchez was worthy of mention, would it not be reasonable to assume that if brother Amaziah had gone to Natchez also, his name would have been included along with that of his brother?

Yet another point to be considered in this regard is that brothers Morgan and Amaziah Vardaman were apparently staunch Baptists and stalwarts of the Crab Orchard (KY) church. They are mentioned in the Rev. J. M. Peck's biography of Jeremiah. Unfortunately, no specific years are mentioned in the reference to Amaziah and Morgan to help us place just when these two men were active in this church.

Now -- to conclude: Edna, I have done very little personal research on the John² Vardaman line in general and on the Mississippi Vardamans in particular. Most of my information has been picked up incidental to my research on other lines. I have long felt the need to dig into the Mississippi Vardamans to a greater degree and hope to begin doing so in the not too distant future.

I was very pleased to get your Spell family information and the Civil War records of Mississippi Vardamans. I have enough information at present to know that Ayers Augustus Vardaman (born 1836) and G. (George) W. Vardaman (born 1843) were sons of Elijah and Margaret (Holliday) Vardaman. I note the records for a G. S., J. W. and J. F. Vardaman but do not know to which family these men belong at present. I will identify them as soon as I can get to the Mississippi census records (I hope).

Needless to say, the information that I am sending you, will whet your appetite for more and you will probably increase your own effort. Please, please, do not forget me. I will be very, very interested in hearing of anything you may learn.

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I would very much like to know that you received this packet of material (book!) and any observations that you may have on the enclosed material. I will do my best to answer any questions you might have. Any additional information that you might be able to provide would be welcome -- even if it should disagree with what I have written. I am ever ready to revise any conclusions that I may have reached when new information casts them in a different light.

Sincerely,



J. H. Vardaman
361 Wrights Mill Ct.
Alpharetta, GA 30201

Telephone: 404-887-4803

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

July 4, 1995

Edna S. Bates
3703 Sherwood St.
Pascagoula, MS 39581-4651

Dear Edna,

I'm sorry that you had to wait for so long to get this package of material. However, the wait may have worked out to your advantage.

Prior to receiving your request for information, I had been contacted by a young man in California who also said that he knew little or nothing of Vardaman family history and who descended from the same basic branch of the family as you.

Some years back I had corresponded with a Dorothy Tierney in Louisiana who had furnished me a large package of material including 19 letters from a Mrs. Dorothy Deck of Springfield, MO. Mrs. Deck descended from the same line as the gentleman in California so I decided to send him copies of her letters.

However, after copying the letters for him, I decided that I would just be perpetuating a great deal of erroneous information that has been circulating for years regarding Vardaman family history. As a result I have written a Commentary on these letters in order to set forth the correct information as we understand it today. Needless to say, this project took some time to complete.

In my files I found a letter from a Mrs. Kathryn Watkins of Hammond, LA, to a Mr. Guy Vining (deceased) of Hurtsboro, AL, which bears directly on your line. I have written a Commentary on that letter also. Both sets of letters together with the Commentaries are enclosed.

In order to get you started properly I will provide a little preliminary information in this letter.

The earliest record that we have located for a Vardaman (however spelled) in America is the will of John Vardaman of New Castle Co., Delaware, dated in 1714. Since no prior record of a Vardaman (however spelled) can be found in colonial records, we conclude that this John was the original emigrant to the New World from Europe. Allowing for certain explainable errors with regard to generations and dates in the various Jeremiah Vardaman biographies provides further confirmation of this conclusion.

Because there are so many Johns and Williams to which to refer, I have added superscripts to these two names in order to differentiate between them and to avoid confusion.

BAPTIST HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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October, 1986

of these folk hymns and spirituals is a hymnals published in recent years. *Harmony* is still used in singings but on *Harmony* was carried by settlers from and in 1884 a "Big Singing" was established. *Southern Harmony* singing has been in singings, meeting each fourth Sunday in May. 10th anniversary in 1985. Baptists of the *Southern Harmony* and *The Sacred Harp*. Ministers have written hymns that have hymnals, the repertory of folk hymns White, E. J. King, and John G. McCurry and stream of present-day congregational

nymnology, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, of a paper prepared for the Hymnody Symposium at North, Texas, June 8, 1985.

er to Editor, *Musical Million*, XL:135, September, 1880.

Musical Million, VII:11ff, January, 1876.

based on Harry Eskew's "The Life and Work of William Walker" (Baptist Theological Seminary, 1960), which refers to

rianburg: *A History, 1839-1982* (Spartanburg, SC: First Church, 1982). This valuable in many respects, erroneously credits Walker

Southern Harmony" (unpublished M.C.M. thesis, Southern

the Southern Uplands (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Folklore Associates, 1964; New York: Dover Publications.

rist Convention meeting, for the Convention minutes do not mention it.

August 18-21, 1876, p. 11. Smith probably refers to Samuel Smith, a minister who authored "My Country, 'tis of Thee" and the most widely used American Baptist hymnal of its time. See also a New York piano merchant and publisher of popular

by Walker was made several years before his *Southern Harmony* was published. See *A Manuscript Predecessor of William Walker's Music Book* (April, 1978).

formance style in present-day singings, see Edith Bryson, "The Performance Style" (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation,

Philadelphia: E. W. Miller and William Walker, 1867), p. 111. *Encyclopedia of Southern Baptists*, 1982, IV, 2, 451.

see Harry Eskew, "William Walker's *Southern Harmony*" volume of essays in honor of Gilbert Chase published by

Southern Harmony can be obtained from Glenn Wilcox, P.O.

the Cluster of Jesse Mercer (Macon, GA: Renaissance Press,

first published in *Southern Harmony* is WONDROUS. Though not so credited in *Baptist Hymnal*, THE PROMISE, edition of *Southern Harmony*.

A Restored Baptist Treasure: Portrait of Jeremiah Vardeman, 1775-1842

Ronald F. Deering

In decorating the president's home at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, a goal has been to use Baptist historical items as much as possible. In the course of these efforts, there was discovered in the James P. Boyce Centennial Library a long-neglected historical portrait. At first sight, the painting appeared to be hopelessly lost. It was covered with grime, the frame had badly deteriorated, there were scratches on the painting, and tears and even a sizable hole in the background marred the canvas.

Upon investigation, however, this badly deteriorated painting turned out to be a veritable Baptist historical treasure. It proved to be a long lost painting of the venerable Jeremiah Vardeman. Douglas A. Eisele, president of Old World Restorations, Inc. of Cincinnati, Ohio, was contacted. After examining the painting, he indicated that it would be possible to restore both it and its frame to their original beauty, and to preserve them permanently, using state-of-the-art professional museum techniques. Through generous contributions of Jeremiah Vardaman, director of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology at Mississippi State University, and other lateral and direct descendants of the earlier Jeremiah Vardeman, the painting and frame were thoroughly restored to magnificent beauty. They now grace a prominent place in the dining room of the president's home.

Perhaps even more important than its aesthetic and artistic values are the painting's historical importances.

Jeremiah Vardeman, born in Wythe County, Virginia, on July 8, 1775, was moved to Crab Orchard, Kentucky, in the autumn of 1779. There he grew up in pioneer Kentucky and became a great outdoorsman. Having made a profession of faith about 1792 in Cedar Creek Baptist Church (later called Crab Orchard Baptist Church) at age seventeen, he was largely inactive in Christian work, and in fact became disinterested. Soon after marrying Elizabeth James, he moved to Pulaski County. There, however, he had an experience of rededication as a fruit of the ministry of a blind and uneducated preacher, Thomas Hansford. Hereafter, having been ordained in 1801, he moved to Lincoln County and into a preaching and evangelistic ministry which marked him as one of the greatest ministers of his and all times. It is said that eight thousand persons were converted as a direct result of his ministry. His preaching has been compared to that of Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield.

He served as pastor of Cedar Creek Baptist Church from 1802 until 1810 and purchased a small farm near Stanford in 1804. In 1810 he was called as pastor of David's Fork Baptist Church near Lexington. He led extensive revivals in this area and maintained a pastoral relation to this and several other churches in the area until 1830. About 1815-16, he is said to

have organized churches at Bardstown and Lexington, and the First Baptist Church of Louisville, which later became a part of the present-day Walnut Street Baptist Church. In 1818 the first of his three wives, the mother of their eleven children, died in childbirth. On July 22, 1820, following six weeks of revival services, he helped organize the First Baptist Church of Nashville, Tennessee. In 1821 he married his second wife, Elizabeth Bryan, who bore him one son and died in 1822. His third wife, Lucy Bullock, was married to him in 1823, and became the mother of four more of his children.



Restored Portrait of Jeremiah Vardeman

In 1828 another of his revivals, in Cincinnati, Ohio, resulted in over one hundred conversions. In 1830 Vardeman moved to Ralls County, Missouri and soon helped organize the Baptist church in Palmyra, and several others as well. In August, 1834, he served as moderator of the first meeting of what later became the Missouri Baptist Convention. On May 8, 1842, at Ellick Springs, Missouri, he died in his sixty-seventh year. And in 1985, the likeness of this historic Baptist minister was renewed and permanently preserved as a restored Baptist treasure:

Endnotes

Ronald F. Deering is librarian, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

The material for this article was gathered from the following sources:

Kimbrough, B. T. *The History of the Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky*. Louisville: Walnut Street Baptist Church, 1949.

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Family Name History

VARDAMAN

Vardaman is an anglicized rendering of the German family name "Wardemann", which is classified as being of habitation name origin. When family names are defined as "habitation" in origin they refer us to the residence or home of the progenitor or founder of the family. The name may indicate that the original bearer displayed a sign or engraving over the door of his residence or it may tell us that this person's residence was located in a particular town or village or indeed that it was located by some distinguishing geographical or topographical feature. The family name Wardemann originally denoted one who dwelled on an island, peninsula or river bank. Variants of the surname Wardemann include "Wardermann", "Werdemann" and "Werder". One of the earliest references to this name or to a variant is a record of one "Jakob Werdemann", who was a resident of Jükerbog in the year 1455. However, research is of course ongoing and this name may have been documented even earlier than the date indicated above. Onomastic research shows that fixed hereditary family names were first employed in southern Germany in the twelfth century. This practice of adopting a distinguishing name which was retained from one generation to the next gradually expanded to include all German speaking areas. It was however not until the sixteenth century that we can categorically say that the vast majority of Germans bore a family name that had been borne by their father.

This name was introduced to North America as early as 1798, in which year we find a record of the naturalization of John Vardeman in the territory of Mississippi. The name could of course have been first introduced to that country at an earlier date. To date, there is no record of a coat of arms associated with this surname. Therefore the arms of Germany are described below.

BLAZON OF ARMS: Or, an eagle displayed sable, beaked, langued and membered gules.

Translation: The eagle has been a symbol of the German state since 1100.

ORIGIN: GERMANY

I wouldn't place too much on this history. We know the were Vardamans in Delaware early as 1714 and in Virginia early as 1733. However, it to be authentic, if not very researched. At least they did not try to manufacture existent coat-of-arms a often happens.

J.H. Vardaman
2/19/94

Verification of the signature _____ by _____
Registration Number _____

0510/0-60784

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This was obtained
from the SC Archives
6/2/1987

WILL OF
WILLIAM VARDMAN.

In the name of God Amen the twenty fourth day of February one thousand seven hundred and Eighty three I William Vardeman of Ninety Six District in the State of South Carolina Farmer being in Good health and perfect mind and memory thanks be to God there fore Calling unto mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, Do make and ordain this my Last will and Testament that is to say that principally and first of all I give & recommend my Soul into the hands of God that Gave it, and and for my Body I recommend to the Earth to be buried in a Christian manner and decently at the the Discretion of my Executor my younger son James Vardeman nothing doubting but the General Resurrection I Shall receive the same again through the mighty power of God as touching worldly Estate as it has been pleas God to blefs me with in this life I give and Devise all my worldly Estate in the following manner and form Imprimis I give and Bequeath unto my ~~dearly beloved wife Bridget~~ all my held furniture ~~and~~ induring her natural life Item. it is my will and Desire that my ~~eldest son John Vardeman~~ should receive the the value of of one Shilling Sterling by reason ~~he has~~ received his part of my Estate -----

Item it is my will and Desire that my ~~second son William Vardeman~~ should receive no more of my Estate than one Shilling Sterling, by reason that ~~he has already Ready Received Equal part of my Estate~~ -----

Item it is my will and Desire that my ~~third son Peter Vardeman~~ should receive no no more of my Estate then one Shilling Sterling by reason ~~he has already Received his part of my Estate~~ -----

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my ~~younger son James Vardeman~~ the plantation that I now live on Containing on one hundred Acres bein on the Hunting fork the waters of Enoree & fork ok of Indian Creek Containing one hundred Acres and all my personal Estate after my decease I Give unto To him his Heirs and Assigns for ever Bequeath unto my son James Vardeman. I there

William
WILL OF JAMES VARDMAN.

PAGE 2

fore Disannule all other former wills and Testaments given by
me and do further more appoint James Vardeman my my Executor
of this my Last will & Testament Signed Sealed and Delivered
in the presence of us -----

James Lindsey

his
William W Vardman (SEAL)
mark

John Dole

James Film

Recorded In Will Book "B" Page 382

Proved March 3 - 1789

Recorded Date Not Available

P.B. Waters, D.C.

(Original Will Not In Files Of Probate Judge)

NOTES by J.H. VARDAMAN
- 1991 -

on the

BIOGRAPHY OF PARTHENIA ANTOINETTE VARDAMAN HAGUE

(As published in the HISTORY of ALABAMA and DICTIONARY OF ALABAMA BIOGRAPHIES (VOLUME III) by THOMAS McADORY OWEN)

Based on my independent research, I have identified several errors or distortions in the ancestry of Parthenia Antoinette Vardaman Hague as published in her biography in the History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biographies (Volume III), by Thomas McAdory Owen, as follows:

(1) Thomas Butts Vardaman, born ca 1815, was not a native of Jasper County, Georgia. In fact, he probably never lived in that county. There is no town of Newton in Jasper County, GA. There is, however, a county of Newton (established in 1821) which borders Jasper County to the north. County records tell us that Thomas's father, Joseph Vardaman (or Vardeman), was in Morgan County, GA, just to the east of Newton County, as early as 1809 and was a Justice of the Peace in Morgan County from 1813 to 1817 (the period during which Thomas was born). I believe that this firmly establishes that Thomas was born in Morgan Co., GA.

(2) According to county records, Thomas Butts Vardeman was never sheriff of Harris County. However, his father, Joseph Vardeman, was sheriff of Harris County in 1846, as well as county tax receiver in 1851 and tax collector in 1853.

(3) I have no idea as to how the name "Knox" enters into Rachel Vining's ancestry. Her father was Shadrack Vining, son of John Vining and Sarah Ratcliffe. John Vining was a son of William Vining and Anna Nichols. At this point the Vining line is somewhat confused, there being two primary possibilities. Neither possibility, which can then be taken back several more generations, includes the name "Knox". Rachel's mother was Pherebe Ratcliffe, daughter of Benjamin Ratcliffe and Jeanne Porter. Jeanne was the daughter of Nicholas Porter and Elizabeth Cresswell. Since Benjamin Ratcliffe (Pherebe's father) and Sarah Ratcliffe (Shadrack's mother) were brother and sister, Pherebe and Shadrack were first cousins.

In view of the above, there is no "Knox" in a reasonable generation gap of Rachel. Parthenia's mother was Emily Adeline Evans, daughter of David Evans and Rhoda Milner. While I have done no research on either of these lines, if there is a "Knox" in Parthenia's ancestry I would guess that it would come from this side of her family.

(4) While we have no proof, Joseph Vardeman's ancestry was probably German rather than Dutch. This seems to be a common mistake made by various historians regarding the Vardaman

(2)

(Vardeman) line. It is probably the result of this line of Vardamans being from a rather broad area of Newberry County, SC, known as "Dutch Fork". This area was originally settled by a group of Germans (not including the Vardamans who migrated to this area later from Virginia). The name "Dutch" Fork is derived from the word "Deutschland", the German word for Germany.

(5) Rachel Vining was not from Scotland, although some of her ancestors could have been. "Knox" is, of course, a good Scottish name, except, as explained above, we don't now how it might fit into her ancestry.

The 1850 Census indicates that Rachel was born in SC, although this, too, I believe to be in error. Shadrack Vining's father, John Vining, was originally from Massachusetts but migrated to Johnston County, NC, with his family before the Revolutionary War. Pherebe Ratcliffe was apparently born in either Virginia or North Carolina. Shadrack and Pherebe were married in Johnston County, NC, April 13, 1778. We believe that of their 15 children, the first 7 (including Rachel) were born in N.C. We are not sure when the family came to Georgia so are not sure where the next 3 or 4 were born. The last 4 were assuredly born in Georgia.

We have no records indicating that Shadrack and Pherebe ever lived in SC, although his uncle, Jesse Vining, did. On the other hand, available records do not preclude his having lived in SC for a short period of time before arriving in Georgia.

Shadrack's uncle, Jeptha Vining, was a renowned Baptist minister of the Revolutionary War period and the years following. He was especially active in Burke County, GA (established in 1777). Jeptha Vining is considered, along with Jesse Mercer, to be one of the founding fathers of Georgia Baptists. Jefferson County, GA, the home of Shadrack and Pherebe Vining, was created from a portion of Burke County in 1796.

ADDENDUM: According to other records, Parthenia was a governess for a wealthy Alabama planter who lived near Eufaula in Barbour County, AL, during the Civil War years. She married Arnold Hague of England in 1872 and later lived in Florida.

HISTORY
OF
ALABAMA
AND
DICTIONARY
OF
ALABAMA BIOGRAPHY

BY
THOMAS McADORY OWEN

IN FOUR VOLUMES
VOLUME ~~IV~~ III

WITH NEW INTRODUCTION

BY
MILO B. HOWARD, JR.



THE REPRINT COMPANY, PUBLISHERS
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA
1978

District, S. C., and brought when young to Alabama; grandson of Zachariah and Nancy Hagood, who removed to Jefferson County, and lived near Mt. Pinson, and of John and Jane (Caddle) Hale, of Monticello, Ky. His great-grandparents are believed to have lived and died in Pickens District. Mr. Hagood was educated in the common schools of Jefferson County. He served through the War of Secession as 1st lieutenant, Co. C, 19th Alabama infantry regiment. He was sheriff of Jefferson County, 1874-7, and acting sheriff, 1880-84. He was a Methodist. Married: April 10, 1866, at Elyton, to America, daughter of William Alfred and Corilla (Porter) Walker, of that place. Children: 1. Robert William, m. Emily Dubois, resides in Portland, Ore.; 2. Corilla, m. William Betha, Birmingham; 3. Margaret, m. Lee Kitchel Terrell, of Birmingham; 4. Laura, m. George Shafer O'Neal, of Birmingham; 5. Lucy, m. Daniel Holt Smith, of Macon, Ga.; 6. Rufus Hansom, of Birmingham. Residence: Birmingham.

HAGUE, JOHN, *soldier of the American Revolution.*

"AN OLD SOLDIER FALLEN.—Mr. John Hague, aged (we understand), ninety-three years, died in Nashville, on the 13th inst. Mr. Hague was a native of Germany. He came to America in company with Lafayette, and fought in the Revolutionary War in aid of our country's independence. He was one of Lafayette's light guard. When this distinguished chieftain visited America, and passed through Nashville in 1824, Mr. Hague, who then resided in Huntsville, Alabama, came on foot, more than a hundred miles, to meet once more his old general. We are told by those who were present at their meeting, that it was a moment of thrilling interest. Mr. Hague threw himself suddenly and unexpectedly before Lafayette; the general immediately recognized him, and with a familiar tone, exclaimed, "Why, John, is this you!" and in a moment they were closely embraced in each other's arms.

"Mr. Hague was for more than fifty years a devoted Christian, and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"He died triumphantly. His funeral was attended by an immense concourse. He was buried with military honors."—*Independent Monitor*, Tuscaloosa, Ala., Aug. 11, 1841.

The following further reference to this old soldier is noted, evidently taken from a Nashville paper:

"During the visit, short as it was, of Gen. Lafayette to this place [Nashville], many incidents occurred, calculated to touch the feelings and awaken the sensibility of all who witnessed them. From among the number which have been described to us, we select the following:

"An old 'revolutionaire' named Hagy, a German by birth, who came to America in the same vessel with Gen. Lafayette, in 1777, and served with him during the greater part of the war, had travelled hither on foot from Huntsville to greet the 'Nation's Guest.' Their meeting under our civic arch was most cordial. Hagy repeatedly embraced and kissed

his old commander."—*Southern Advocate*, Huntsville, Ala., May 27, 1825.

~~HAGUE, PARDENNA, ANPOINTE, VARDAMAN~~, author, was born November 29, 1838, at Dowdels Mill, Harris County, Ga.; daughter of Thomas Butts and Emily Adeline (Evans) Vardaman, the former a native of Newton, Jasper County, Ga., who lived at Hamilton, Ga., and served as high sheriff of Harris County; granddaughter of Col. Joseph and Rachel Vining (Knot) Vardaman, who lived at Hamilton, Harris County, Ga., the former whose ancestors came from the Netherlands, and the latter a native of Scotland and a lineal descendant of John Knox, of Scotland, and of David and Rhoda (Milner) Evans, of Hamilton, Ga., the former of Welsh descent, and the latter of Virginia stock, and a relative of Lord Milner of England; great-granddaughter of Jerome Milner who fought for seven years on the side of the colonial army in the Revolutionary War. Mrs. Hague was reared in Harris County, Ga., and finished her education in the Hamilton female college, in that county. She moved to Alabama and lived in that state during the War of Secession and for many years afterward. During her stay in Alabama she gathered the material for her book, "A Blockaded Family," published in 1883, by Houghton Mifflin Company, Cambridge, Mass. The book was endorsed personally by Jefferson Davis and Gen. Beauregard. Mrs. Hague was also author of an article in the Atlanta "Constitution," describing the fight with the Indians at the Chalibee (Calebee) Swamp in Alabama. Married: to Mr. Hague. Her husband and her only remaining son died within five weeks of each other. Residence: Tampa, Fla.

HAILE, COLUMBUS, railway official, a native and for some time a resident of Alabama, was born September 8, 1860, at Carlolville, Dallas County; son of Columbus and Ann Louisa (McCaa) Haile, both of Kershaw District, S. C., but later residents of Dallas County; grandson of Benjamin and Amelia (Blakeney) Haile, and Dr. John and Amelia (Boykin) McCaa, all of Camden, S. C. He attended the Male academy at Staunton, Va.; Hampden-Sidney college, 1875-77, and the University of Virginia, 1877-78. He began railway service with the Houston and Texas central railroad, 1880, and rose rapidly; is at present vice-president and traffic manager of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railway company. Married: December 25, 1883, at Palesino, Texas, to Tempe, daughter of James Monroe and Hannah Eliza (Jackson) Perry, of that place. Children: 1. Tempe, d. in infancy; 2. Columbus, d. in infancy; 3. Columbus, m. Sue Lewis Bell, resides in Dallas, Tex.; 4. Elise. Residence: St. Louis, Mo.

HAILS, GEORGE WILLOUGHBY, planter, was born in 1811, in Columbia, S. C., and died in 1865; son of Capt. Robert Hails, a planter near the Santee River in South Carolina, and an earnest supporter of Colonial forces, who raised for the Revolutionary War a company of partisan rangers at his own expense and

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Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

NOTES by J. H. VARDAMAN

- March 31, 1990 -

on the

BIOGRAPHY OF JOHN F. VARDAMAN

(As published in the MEMORIAL RECORD OF ALABAMA, VOLUME I)

Based on my independent research, I have identified several errors or discrepancies in the Biography of John F. Vardaman as published in the Memorial Record of Alabama, Volume I, as follows:

(1) While the Vardaman family could possibly be of German descent, there exists credible published information that the family is of Swedish origin instead. This is a moot point at present.

(2) As evidenced in the will of William Vardaman of Newberry County, SC, ca 1789, there were four Vardaman brothers rather than three. The eldest brother, John, is not mentioned in this biography.

(3) The elder William may have been a son of a John (Johannes) Ver-de-man of Apoquininny (Apoquinimunk) Creek, Delaware, who died ca 1714. Among this John's surviving minor children was a son named William. In any event, the William of the SC will appears in colonial Virginia records as early as 1735, and in most cases his name appears as Verdiman. A court deposition in Pittsylvania Co., VA, in 1758, refers to "old William Verdiman, aged about 60".

(4) In view of the above, it seems clear that the sons of the elder William Vardaman - John, William (Jr.), Peter and James - did not come to America from Europe but were all born here in colonial America. The latter three were most assuredly born in Virginia. The eldest, John, was also probably born in Virginia but may have been born in Delaware instead. The elder William could very well have been born in Europe and migrated to America with his father.

(4) Eldest son John first resided in Virginia but later migrated to what is now Kentucky, helping to open up that area for settlement. He raised a large family which spread to the west and south. Peter can be found in Virginia until sometime after the Revolutionary War when he, too, migrated westward to Kentucky. The elder William came to old Ninety-six District (now Newberry County), SC, from the Bedford County area of Virginia in 1766, together with his then wife and youngest son, James. The other son, William (Jr.), who, up until the move to SC, had remained close to his father, also remained in the Bedford County area of Virginia until after the Revolutionary War and then apparently moved into the Wilkes County, GA, area where he appears ca 1783.

- 2 -

(5) "Dutch Fork" was the name originally applied to the area where the Saluda and Broad Rivers meet, much to the south of the conjunction of the Enoree and Broad Rivers. However, the Vardaman lands were located on Hunting Fork of Indian Creek, a tributary of the Enoree River, near where the Enoree empties into the Broad River. This area could have been said to be included on the far northern edge of "Dutch Fork". In 1766 when the Vardamans first arrived in SC, this area was part of a very ill defined Craven County. It was later included as part of old Ninety-six District and in 1782 became a part of newly created Newberry County.

(6) In view of the above it was James Vardaman who settled in the Dutch Fork area of SC, not his descendants. As we will see below, James' sons moved on to Georgia where they settled for a time before two of them moved on to Alabama.

(7) According to Vining family records, Thomas and Ann were married in 1804 rather than 1801, in a double ceremony with Thomas' brother Joseph and Ann's twin sister, Rachel. William Vardaman, an older brother of Thomas and Joseph, had previously married Ruth Vining in 1801. Ruth was an elder sister of the twins, Ann and Rachel.

(8) There is no evidence that Thomas Vardaman ever lived in Jasper County, GA. Certainly his son, E. L., was not born there. At the time of E. L.'s birth in 1804-05, the area which now comprises Jasper County, GA, was unsettled Creek Indian land. This territory was obtained from the Creeks in 1805 and added to Baldwin County which had just been formed in 1803.

E. L. was also not born in Newberry County, SC. The biography contradicts itself in this respect stating that he was born in both Newberry County, SC, and in Jasper County, GA, - neither of which is correct. However, his father, Thomas Vardaman, was born in Ninety-six District, SC, in that portion that later became Newberry County.

Based on the known whereabouts of E. L.'s father, Thomas, in 1805, E. L. was, in all probability, born in Jefferson County, GA.

(9) The movements of Thomas Vardaman as set forth in the biography cannot be correct. We know that he married in Jefferson Co., GA, in 1804 and was still there in 1805 when he won a prize in the 1805 Georgia Land Lottery. A short time later in 1809 both Thomas and his brother Joseph were in Morgan County, GA, and by 1811 Thomas was in Putnam County where he remained until the late 1820s when he moved to Meriwether County. Both Morgan and Putnam Counties, as well as Jasper and Jones Counties, were formed from the territory obtained from the Creeks in 1805 and 1807.

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Vardaman Family

- 3 -

The date of 1827 for the move to Meriwether County cannot be correct. Records of the Crooked Creek Baptist Church in Putnam County show that both Ann and Thomas as well as two of their daughters joined this Church in 1828. The Church records further indicate that these members were dismissed from the Church in February, 1929. This usually denoted a move away from the area. Also, Thomas was still returning taxes in Putnam County in 1828. In view of this, the time of the move to Meriwether County would seem to be 1829 rather than 1827. The 1836 date for the move to Coosa County, AL, is probably correct.

(10) E. L. Vardaman and Lucinda Mauk were married January 6, 1825, (not 1824), by the Rev. Richard Pace, Pastor of the Crooked Creek Baptist Church in Putnam County, GA. I have a copy of the actual marriage record.

(11) The biography states that John F. Vardaman was Superintendent of Education for Coosa County, AL, in 1890. However, George Brewer's History of Coosa County, Alabama indicates that he was Superintendent in 1894-96 and again in 1898-1900. This History indicates that a T. J. Pendleton was Superintendent from 1876 to 1892.

This is somewhat puzzling and I wonder if, in this case, it is the History that is in error rather than the biography, for the following reason:

The biography indicates that John F.'s second son, John W. A. Vardaman is still at home with his father at the time the biography was written. Yet we know that by 1893 John W. A. had left home and moved to Lafayette in Chambers County, AL, where he studied law under Dr. McNeill at Lafayette College. A short time later he became Clerk of the County Probate Court. This would tend to place the writing of the biography sometime prior to 1893, which would be prior to the dates of John F.'s tenure as Superintendent (1894-96 and 1898-1900) as shown in Brewer's History. Yet the biography clearly states that he was elected County Superintendent of Education in 1890.

John F. Vardaman, in all likelihood, served as County Superintendent of Education from 1890-1896 and 1898-1900.

J. H. Vardaman
361 Wright's Mill Ct.
Alpharetta, GA 30201

Revised June 21, 1992

Memorial Record

Of

ALABAMA

A CONCISE ACCOUNT OF THE STATE'S POLITICAL, MILITARY,
PROFESSIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS,
TOGETHER WITH THE PERSONAL
MEMOIRS OF MANY OF
ITS PEOPLE

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME I



THE REPRINT COMPANY, PUBLISHERS
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA
1976

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Vardaman Family

PERSONAL MEMOIRS—COOSA COUNTY.

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was private and he was ordained in 1886. In 1885 he was called to a group of churches near Marion, Ala., and after a year he was called to a point near Anniston. After a five years' service here he removed to Good Water, where he has charge of a group of churches. Wherever he has preached he has been successful and popular, and when he has left it has been against the wishes of the people. He was married July 13, 1871, near Bridgeville, Pickens county, Ala., to Kittie Duncan. To this marriage there were no children. He married the second time, January 1, 1874, at Warsaw, Ala. to Sarah E. Stanton, by whom he has three children, viz.: Lillie Laura, Willie G. and Mary S. Politically Rev. Mr. Spence is a democrat, and has never scratched a ticket, and while not an active politician he takes an active interest in the success of his party. He also still takes considerable interest in journalism, and writes frequent articles for the secular, as well as the religious press.

JOHN F. VARDAMAN, planter, of Good Water, Ala., is a son of E. L. and Lucinda K. (Mauk) Vardaman. The Vardaman family is of German descent, three brothers, Peter, James and William, coming to America in the early part of the eighteenth century, Peter settling in Virginia, William in Kentucky and James in South Carolina. The descendants of James settled in the fork of the Broad and Ennoree rivers—called Dutch Fork—in what was then Newberry district, in South Carolina, a colony of Germans having settled there. The grandfather of John F. Vardaman, Thomas Vardaman, was a son of James Vardaman, and was born in Dutch Fork about 1777, and married Annie Vining in Jefferson county, Ga., in 1801, and moved into Jasper county, Ga., where C. L. was born in 1804. He then moved to Jefferson county, Ga., in 1805, to Putnam county, Ga. in 1807, and to Meriwether county, Ga., in 1827, back to Dutch Fork, and finally to Alabama in 1836, settling in Coosa county, where he died in 1857. E. L. Vardaman was born in Newberry district, South Carolina, and was married in Putnam county, Ga., to Lucinda K. Mauk, on the 6th day of January, 1824, settling three years thereafter in Meriwether county, Ga., where he lived until the winter of 1848-9. He then came to Alabama. Mr. Vardaman remembers that year, 1849, as the year of the great April frost, which destroyed a great deal of vegetation and growing crops. He, E. L. Vardaman, represented Meriwether county in the Georgia legislature in 1847, and when he moved to Alabama located first in the north-western part of Tallapoosa county, and afterward moved to Coosa county, and still later to Clay county, where he died in July, 1878. He had thirteen children, seven of whom are now living, viz.: Cynthia M., of Clay county, widow of Kenney M. Hannan, of Tallapoosa county, Ala.; Frances C., wife of George V. House of Clay county, Ala.; Mary B., wife of Edward M. Adair of Clay county; John F., Zilpha T., wife of J. M. L. McPhail, of Clay county; Adeline E., single; Annie L., wife of B. F. Lukery of Clay county; Meinda, Minerva and Nancy died while young; William F. was killed at the battle of Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862. He was a

private soldier in company A, Fourteenth Alabama infantry; James M., was killed below Petersburg, March 30, 1865. He was a private soldier in company C, Sixtieth Alabama infantry; Milda V., wife of I. T. Kilpatrick, died in January, 1884, leaving a large family of children, all married, except a boy and a girl. Mrs. Lucinda K. Vardaman died in March, 1862, and in 1864, E. L. Vardaman was again married, this time to Miss Martha A. Conway, who has no children, and is yet living in Chilton county, Ala. John F. Vardaman was born May 19, 1835, in Meriwether county, Ga. He had poor opportunities for securing an education in his minority, but at twenty, and afterward, he attended school a portion of each year, for four years. He began to teach school in 1859, and in 1861 he left the school room to enter the army, enlisting first as a twelve months' man, and afterward joined company C, in the cavalry battalion of Hilliard's Alabama legion. At first he saw service in Tennessee. He was at Chickamauga, Knoxville, Bean Station and Strawberry Plains. He was a courier at the time of Bragg's invasion into Kentucky. Before the Georgia campaign he was ordered to Virginia, where he served during the rest of the war, being at Appomattox at the time of Lee's surrender. Returning home from war he became engaged in farming and teaching, and has been thus engaged ever since. He was married December 21, 1865, to Miss Julia Flynn, of Coosa county, Ala., by whom he has four children, viz.: Marshall E., married and living near his parents; John W. A., at home; Maggie M., wife of T. J. Webb, of Kellyton, Ala.; and Ada B., single and at home. Mr. Vardaman was elected county superintendent of education for Coosa county in 1890. He had previously served nine years as magistrate of his beat. Politically he is a member of the people's party, and sympathizes in religious belief with the Primitive Baptist church, though he is not a member. Mr. Vardaman is a man of influence in Coosa county, being one of the most intelligent of the citizens of the county and one of the most substantial and reliable. He is a prosperous farmer living two and a half miles east of Good Water. He is in thorough harmony with the reform movement in politics and is using his influence to cause it to spread and become permanent.

COVINGTON COUNTY.

DAVID S. BARROW, planter and lumberman of Beat No. 6, was born near Pensacola, Fla., in 1828. He is a son of John G. and Catsie Ann (Dunn) Barrow, the former a native of Georgia and the latter a native of South Carolina. When yet a boy, John G. Barrow left home without having received any education and went to Pensacola, Fla., and there found work in a livery stable and hotel. He afterward married the widow Gainer (Miss Dunn). In about 1831, when our subject was three years old, his parents brought him to Covington county and settled in

the woods near engaged in st zuma; and the returned to fa: the old mill sit time to the imp it, driving his. 1858, about fif settlers in thi Indians were r them. Mr. Ba. ness man. and ment and was serving in the Missionary Bap ple nothing is four sons and f Dean; Jacob G. war, was captu Island, served ject; Mary, wi Padget, both d William J. Rile served all thro subject was rec advantages. T ing to his me: child of to-day a mill path, wh cigarette box, attaining his r mand until his ing and for s daughter of Ra came to Conec sheriff of that died April 28, educated his c when the war c the conflict. A was born in Co deceased wife John Julian, E has lived in hi the county's b

**LETTERS OF MRS. DOROTHY DECK
of Springfield, Mo.**

COMMENTARY BY J. H. VARDAMAN

June 1, 1995

During the period 1967 to 1970, Dorothy (Mrs. George D.) Deck of Springfield, MO, wrote a series of 19 letters to Dorothy (Mrs. James A.) Tierney of Natchitoches, LA, concerning Vardaman family history. Mrs. Deck is a descendant of Rane and Sabra (Vardaman) McKinney while Mrs. Tierney is a descendant of Joshua and Sarah Elizabeth (Vardeman) Tatum.

Sabra Vardaman McKinney was the daughter of a John and Elizabeth (Franklin) Vardaman and, while Mrs. Deck was not sure of this, a granddaughter of John Vardaman and Elizabeth Morgan.

Sarah Elizabeth Vardeman Tatum was the daughter of a William Vardeman who married Rachel Walker in Wilkes Co., GA, ca 1796, and granddaughter of a William Vardaman who died in Wilkes Co., GA, ca 1796.

Both the John who married Elizabeth Morgan (this ca 1744-45 in Brunswick Co., VA), and the William who died in Wilkes Co., GA, ca 1796, were sons of "old" William Vardaman of Bedford Co., VA, and, later, Newberry Co., SC, who married, first, Magdalena Peterson in Wilmington, DL, in 1720 and, last, Bridget Tinkler in Bedford Co., VA, ca the 1740s. He may have had another wife between these two but we are unsure of this.

I obtained copies of these letters from Mrs. Tierney in 1988. Unfortunately, I was never able to contact Mrs. Deck and I assume that she is deceased.

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Letter No. 1, dated February 11, 1967:

(1) The Sarah Elizabeth referred to in the 2nd paragraph of this letter (Mrs. Tierney's ancestress) was Sarah Elizabeth (Sally) Vardeman. She was the daughter of William Vardeman³ and Rachel Walker.

William³ Vardeman was the son of William² Vardaman and Jane ?. William² Vardaman was the son of William¹ Vardaman and probably his first wife, Magdalena Peterson, although he could have been a son of a second wife of William¹ Vardaman.

Sarah Elizabeth was born ca 1812 in Jasper Co., GA, and married Joshua Tatum, Dec. 31, 1826, in Monroe Co., GA.

(2) The John³ Vardaman, whose daughters, Tabitha and Sabra, both married Rane McKinney, married Elizabeth Franklyn (Franklin), daughter of John Franklyn (Franklin) and Sarah Smith, reportedly in Henry Co., VA, ca 1769. John³ and Elizabeth could have been married in what is now Henry Co. although it was not Henry Co. at the reported time of their marriage.

(3) John³ Vardaman, to the best of our knowledge, was the eldest son of John² Vardaman and Elizabeth Morgan, daughter of Thomas and Esther Morgan. He was probably born ca 1745. John² Vardaman was the eldest son of William¹ Vardaman and Magdalena Peterson.

If John³ married ca 1769, as reported, it may very well have been in Pittsylvania Co., VA, the western half of which became Henry Co., in 1777. Pittsylvania Co., itself, was created in 1867 from the western half of Halifax Co. which had been created in 1752 from the southwestern portion of Lunenburg Co.

Bedford Co., VA, the home of old William¹ Vardaman during that period, was created in 1754 from the northwestern part of Lunenburg Co.

Bedford was first bordered to the south by Halifax Co., then Pittsylvania Co. (when it was split off in 1767) and partially by Henry Co. when it was created in 1777. Lunenburg Co. was created in 1746 from the western portion of Brunswick Co. which had been created in 1732 from the western reaches of Prince George Co. There is evidence of members of the Vardaman family in both Pittsylvania and Henry Counties in the later years of this period and in Brunswick and Lunenburg Counties in the earlier years. Of course, the bulk of the records of the Vardaman family are found in Bedford Co. during the period 1754-1779.

Now, having said all of the above, I am more than a little dubious that John³ and Elizabeth Franklyn (Franklin) really married in this part of the state. By the late 1760s, John² and Elizabeth (Morgan) had begun moving their family ever westward and were reportedly located

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in the New River area of western Virginia ca 1767, much to the west of the area that became Henry Co.

The New River area was first located in Augusta Co. (created 1745). This area then became Botetort Co. (created in 1770), followed by Fincastle Co. in 1772. Fincastle Co. lasted only five years and was abolished in 1777, replaced by Montgomery, Washington and Kentucky Counties. Kentucky County, at this time, comprised all of what later became the state of Kentucky in 1792. Some histories state that Kentucky first became settled ca 1774.

The New River area associated with the John Vardaman family was located first in Botetort and, subsequently, Fincastle Counties during the time that the Vardamans were there. This area later became Montgomery Co., VA, in 1777 and would eventually become what is now Wythe Co., VA, in 1790, although the Vardamans had long since departed this area to trek further westward.

Their next stop was the Clinch River area ca 1776/77 in what, at that time, was Fincastle Co., VA, deep into the frontier. This area was included in Washington Co. when it was formed in 1777 and later, in 1786, became Russell Co., which remains today one of the far western counties of Virginia. Again, however, the Vardamans had departed ca 1779 to journey westward into Kentucky.

The last known record of John² in Bedford Co. is in 1764 and he is reported to have left for the New River area in 1767 which is about the same time (1766) that his father, old William¹, moved to South Carolina. John³ would have been about 22 years old at this time. If he did not marry until ca 1769, I believe it likely that he would have been in then Augusta Co., VA.

There is the possibility that John³ may not have moved westward with his father's family at this time. He may have stayed in the Bedford Co. area, or very close by, marrying Elizabeth Franklyn in the portion of Pittsylvania Co. that later became Henry Co. and then joining his father in the west at a later date.

In view of the census records showing that his daughter Sabra was born in South Carolina (a very improbable occurrence), it is even possible that he (John³) journeyed there to join his grandfather (William¹). If so, he didn't remain there long before returning to the western Virginia area. Considering the difficulties and hardships of travel in those days, it is hard to imagine a family making such an arduous journey (Virginia to South Carolina) and, after staying only a relatively short time, reversing the trek.

(4) Amazaiah and Morgan Vardaman were, indeed, sons of John² Vardaman and brothers of John³.

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(5) The Draper MS item mentioned by Mrs. Deck is in Vol. 23S. It consists of an interview by Lyman Draper, the author, with Rev. William H. Vardaman, son of Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman (1775-1842) and grandson of John² Vardaman, in St. Charles Co., MO, May 25-26, 1868 -- not in 1886.

Most Vardaman researchers, including myself, do not believe the story of the Vardamans coming from Sweden and certainly not 260 years prior to 1868 which would have been in 1628. Please refer to my analysis of the very limited Vardaman genealogy appearing in this Draper MS article.

(6) The records that Mrs. Deck cites regarding the tithes (poll tax) paid by William¹ Vardaman in Lunenburg Co. were taken from the book Sunlight on the Southside by Landon Bell. I have this book. I have already explained how the Vardaman family which was actually located in Bedford Co. would have been in Lunenburg Co. during the years 1746-1753. The name Robert appears for the only time in any Virginia record in the 1752 tithe list. It is not seen before or ever again and there is no further mention of such a name in any of the court or land records of Virginia. It is my opinion that this is an abstracting or translation error. We know that William¹ had a son named Peter who was apparently not of age to require a tithe prior to 1752. Peter does appear in the records of not only Bedford but also Henry and Pittsylvania Counties numerous times thereafter. I believe that the tithe paid for "Robert" in 1752 should have correctly been identified as "Peter".

(7) The land in St. James parish of Goochland Co. that William¹ sold to James Cox in 1735 was purchased by William September 7, 1734, from William Gooch. This 200 acres was located adjacent to the southside of the Rivana River near the mountains and would be in present day Albemarle Co., VA, on the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains. I have a copy of the deed for this purchase. This land purchase in 1734 is our first record of William¹ in Virginia.

(8) It has been determined that the William¹ Vardaman who is the subject of numerous records in the Bedford Co. area of Virginia is the same William Vardaman who left his will in Newberry Co., SC. This will is dated in 1783 and was probated in 1788/89. The determination that this was the same man is based on the very distinctive "W" that he used to sign various deeds and other legal documents. It is my understanding that this was his registered "mark" -- similar to a cattle brand of the old west.

(9) I descend from James, the youngest son of old William¹, through James' second son, Thomas. While we know positively that James' wife from 1783 until his death in 1797 was Jean/Jane Johnson, daughter of Daniel Johnson and Ann Anderson, we do not know that she was his only wife or the mother of his three sons who were all born prior to 1783. He could very well have had a previous wife, Sabra Liles, daughter of Williamson Liles of Liles Ford, Newberry Co., SC. We know positively that Sabra Liles was married to a Vardaman but, for now, can only conjecture that she was married to James.

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Nevertheless, Thomas's eldest son (my gg-g'father) was named Edwy Liles Vardaman and we are confident that the Liles name connotes a close familial relationship. If Sabra Liles was James' first wife and the mother of his sons, she would have been Edwy's grandmother. Please note that Edwy Liles Vardaman's name appears -in full - on many official documents in Meriwether County, GA, during the 1830s and 1840s, where he was both a Justice of the Peace and a representative to the Georgia State Legislature.

(10) The quote from Summers' book on Newberry Co., except for a couple of minor errors, is essentially correct. I have this book. However, we know that old William¹ came to South Carolina from Virginia - not Pennsylvania (Summers was wrong in this respect) and that none of his sons ever migrated as far as Alabama which did not become a territory until 1817, or a state until 1819. However, two of his grandsons (sons of James) did eventually settle in Alabama and another grandson, William³, (son of William²) was in Alabama for a limited period of time. James died in Newberry Co., SC, ca 1797.

We know that John², the oldest son of William¹, settled in Kentucky -- one of the original pioneers to open Kentucky for settlement -- and that his sons spread to Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Indiana. He is reported to have died in Missouri ca 1827 or 1835. I doubt the correctness of the 1835 date. Even granting a very advanced age of either 104, 107 or 109 (as variously reported) for John², the death date would more likely be sometime in the 1827-1832 period - depending on the exact date of his birth which is unknown.

The third son Peter, who remained in Virginia the longest, eventually joined his older brother in Kentucky where he died ca 1808. The second son, William², eventually settled in Wilkes Co., GA, where he died prior to 1795.

(11) Mrs. Deck's ancestor John, the father of Tabitha and Sabra who both married Rane McKinney, was not the son of William¹ but, instead, a grandson. Her John was John³, son of John², the oldest son of William¹.

Letter No. 2 dated February 27, 1967:

(1) The John Vardaman who appears on the Amite Co., MS, census in 1816 is a son of William⁴ and his wife, Ann Ayers, who were in this area as early as 1790. This William⁴ was a son of John² and a grandson of William¹.

(2) The history of the Vardaman family which appears in Spencer's History of the Kentucky Baptists is very unreliable. Originally it was thought to have been written by Spencer from information obtained from the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman himself. This was later determined to be untrue.

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The original biography of the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman was actually written by a Rev. J. M. Peck, a close friend of Rev. Jeremiah, several years after Rev. Jeremiah's death and was based upon information told to Rev. Peck by Jeremiah -- AS BEST THAT REV. PECK COULD RECALL! The biography of Rev. Jeremiah included in the Spencer History is very similar, although not identical, to the Peck History. The Spencer data contains certain information not included in the Peck biography. Rev. Peck is mentioned once by Mr. Spencer, in a footnote, indicating that at least some of the material in Spencer's work may have been obtained from Rev. Peck's writings.

The original biography as written by Rev. Peck was published in The Christian Repository in February, 1854. This was approximately 12 years after the date of Jeremiah's death in 1842 and 14 years before the Draper MS interview with Jeremiah's son in 1868. It was also 31 years prior to the publishing of Spencer's History.

Later, in 1909, another biography of Rev. Jeremiah, almost identical to that which appeared in The Christian Repository in 1854, appeared in The History of the Salt River Association by Wiley Jones Patrick. This biography was included in a chapter entitled "The Regions Beyond" which was authored by Rev. J. M. Peck. So, we would expect that these two biographies would be identical or, at least, very similar.

We know that there was an original John Vardaman who left a will in New Castle Co., DL, in 1714 which included a minor son named William who later married Magdalena Peterson in Wilmington, DL, in 1720. Since no prior record of a Vardaman can be found in colonial records we conclude that this John was probably the original emigrant to the New World. If we allow for certain errors as to places and generations in the Vardaman family histories as reported in the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman biographies, these histories would tend to confirm the conclusion that the John Vardaman in Delaware was the original emigrant.

William, the son of John of the Delaware will, could very well have been born in Europe (whether Sweden or somewhere else) and have been brought to America by his father. This William's wife, Magdalena Peterson, could also have been born in Europe and emigrated to the New World with her parents. Since there is no doubt that the Peterson name is Swedish, it is reasonable to conclude that Magdalena's parents and possibly she, herself, came to this country from Sweden. This could be a possible explanation of the story of the Vardamans coming from Sweden -- the source of the story having confused the family history of William's wife with that of William himself.

(3) It is unreasonable to believe that John² Vardaman lived to be 125 years of age. However, as unusual as it may be, an age of 104 or even 107 could be considered within the realm of possibility.

(4) Apparently there is a page or, at least, certain lines missing from this letter. The missing portion of the letter apparently includes some information on the sons of James Vardaman of Newberry Co., SC.

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James had 3 sons, all born in Dutch Fork, SC, an area that was included in Newberry Co. when it was formed in 1782. They were William⁵ (b. 1775), Thomas (b. 1777) and Joseph (b. 1781). At the time the boys were born the area that became Newberry Co. was part of the old 96th District of SC.

These three brothers traveled to Jefferson Co., GA, around 1800 -- probably with their grandmother (or step-grandmother) Ann Anderson Johnson Coates. After the death of her husband, Daniel Johnson, in Newberry Co., SC, in 1783, Ann Johnson married a William Coates in Newberry Co. and subsequently (before 1800) moved to the banks of the Ogeechee River in Jefferson Co., GA. Since James Vardaman died in 1797, it is not unreasonable to assume that his three sons moved to Georgia somewhere around this time. This would account for their presence in Jefferson Co. ca 1800 where they met and married three daughters of Shadrack and Pherebe Vining.

(5) Since all census records for E. L. Vardaman (1850, 60 and 70 - he died in 1877), son of Thomas and Annie (Vining) Vardaman, show his place of birth as Georgia and the 1880 census records of 6 of his 7 surviving children confirm this, I conclude that he was born in Jefferson Co., GA, in 1804. The date is reported to be from an old Vardaman family Bible. While I have never seen this Bible, the date is identical to that reported for him in other documents. This would have been about the same time that his father (Thomas) signed up for the 1805 Georgia Land Lottery in which he became a winner.

Since there is a very brief mention of Thomas in Newberry Co., SC, in 1805, I believe it possible that he could have returned there, possibly in late 1804 or early 1805, for a very brief stay. He next appears in newly formed (1807) Morgan Co., GA, where the land that he won in the 1805 Lottery was located. He appears to have arrived in Morgan Co. ca 1806-07 together with his younger brother, Joseph, who was given, or purchased, the land that Thomas had received in the lottery. Sometime after 1809 (last known record of Thomas in Morgan Co.), Thomas moved to Putnam Co., (also newly formed in 1807) just to the south of Morgan Co., where he is found as early as 1811.

Thomas never lived in Jasper Co., GA, another of the newly formed 1807 counties. However, his cousin, William³, was in Jasper Co. very early having moved there from Morgan Co. William³ died in Jasper Co. ca 1816-17.

Thomas remained in Putnam Co., GA, until ca 1829 when he moved further west to newly formed (1827) Meriwether Co. He remained there until 1836 when he moved further westward to Coosa Co., AL, where he subsequently died in 1857. Coosa Co. was formed in 1832 from land obtained in the Creek Indian cession of 1832 (Treaty of Cusseta).

(6) The William who suddenly appears in Wilkes Co., GA, in 1783, is almost surely William², son of William¹. This conclusion is supported by the following facts:

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(a) The last known record of William² Vardaman in Bedford Co., VA, is in 1779 when he takes an oath of allegiance in the Militia. In 1778, also in Bedford Co., VA, he is security for the will of Peter Bennett. There is apparently a close connection of this Bennett family with the Vardaman family. While it has not yet been documented, it is believed that Peter Bennett's wife Frances, may have been a daughter of William¹ Vardaman. Remember that William¹ had removed to SC in 1766.

(b) In 1784 a William Vardaman receives a land grant in Wilkes Co., GA. In close proximity with the William Vardaman family in Wilkes Co. are Reuben and Micaja Bennett, two of the sons of the Peter Bennett mentioned above, as well as members of the Evans family who were associated with both the Bennetts and Vardamans in Bedford Co., VA. and even more closely in Georgia.

(c) It has been reported that Jane, wife of William Vardaman in Wilkes Co., was a Bennett but no documentation has been found to support this.

(7) The Bennett Vardaman mentioned in Mrs. Deck's letter has to be a reference to Washington Bennett Vardaman, second son of William and Ruth (Vining) Vardaman and grandson of James Vardaman. It is likely that his full name may have been James Washington Bennett Vardaman. In any event he was commonly called Bennett and the name Bennett appears at least once in every succeeding generation in this family. This Bennett Vardaman was born in 1810 in Newberry Co., SC, and died between 1860 and 1870 in Talladega Co., AL, which had been his home for 30 years.

The name Vardaman, as a given name, appears in several subsequent generations of both the Bennett and Evans families.

Letter No. 3 undated:

(1) Mrs. Deck's supposition regarding Mrs. Tierney's William is correct as stated previously in this commentary. She is on target with other conclusions as well.

(2) Thomas, son of James, was reportedly born in 1777 -- not 1772 as stated in this letter. There is no documentation to support either date, only unsupported family information. We do know that Thomas had an older brother, William, reportedly born in 1775.

Letter No. 4 dated June 12, 1967:

(1) Mrs. Deck was quite correct in disbelieving that John² was born in Sweden in 1718. We are confident that he was the son of William¹ and Magdalena Peterson and was most likely born

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ca 1821/24 in Delaware. Remember that William¹ and Magdalena were married in Delaware in 1720 and had a daughter, Maria, baptized April 1, 1724, at Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington, DL. We do not know whether or not there were other children preceding Maria but there very well could have been.

Certain of the Jeremiah Vardaman biographies have apparently compressed Vardaman family history by erroneously omitting the William¹ Vardaman generation and proceeding directly from John¹, who died in Delaware ca 1714, to John² as a son. In this case it would be William¹ who was apparently born in Europe (whether Sweden or some other place) and not John².

We know from various land transactions that, by 1744, William¹ was in that portion of Brunswick County which later became Lunenburg (1746) and, even later, Bedford Co. (1754). The first tithe list for Lunenburg Co., as shown in Sunlight on the Southside, was for 1748 and included William¹ and two of his sons, John² and William². From this we can interpolate the not very helpful information that these two sons were born at least no later than 1731/32. We can also interpolate that son Peter had not yet reached the age of 16. The youngest son, James, would have been only a baby, if he, in fact, had even been born at this time.

(2) The death date of 1827 for John² appears to be consistent in various Jeremiah Vardaman biographies except for that written by Lyman Draper in the Draper Manuscripts (1832). Since most of the other biographies appear to stem from the earliest one written by Rev. J. M. Peck, we would expect little or no variation in this date. Since all of the information located to date on John² indicates that he did indeed live to be over 100 years of age, I think that the 1827 death date is probably the closest to being correct. If John² were born ca 1723 and died in 1827, he would, indeed, have been 104 years old, an age that appears in some records and which could have certainly been possible.

On the other hand, the 1835 death date, as set forth in the Draper Manuscript, could be correct if we assume that John² was not born until 1728 (107 years old) or he could have died in 1732 (104 years old). Again, however, we must not overlook the reported ca 1744 marriage date for John² in Brunswick Co., VA. To have married ca 1744, I believe that he would have had to have been born at the very latest by 1725/26 which would definitely rule out the 1732 birth date and make the 1728 date very improbable.

My information indicates that the area in Missouri which ultimately became Johnson County (in western Missouri, south of the Missouri River) was in Cooper County in 1820 and, later, in Lafayette County in 1830. Johnson County was not created until some time between 1830 and 1840. In any event, while I do not doubt that old John² moved to Missouri ca 1812, I don't believe that he moved as far west as would have been necessary to place him in what would later become Johnson County. I believe that he was probably to be found much further to the east. In any event, one would have to search the records of Cooper or Lafayette Co., or even earlier in St. Louis County, whose western borders were undefined at the time that Missouri became a state, to find records of the settlers of this area.

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According to Mrs. Deck (see Letter No. 9 dated 17, 1968), the old John Sappington Cemetery where John² Vardaman is reported to have been buried is located in what is now the town of Crestwood, a suburb of southwestern St. Louis. This would indicate that John² did not venture very far into Missouri.

The city of St. Louis was founded by the French in 1764 and came to the U. S. in the Louisiana Purchase. It was made the capitol of the new Louisiana Territory in 1805 and was incorporated in 1809. In 1815 it had an estimated population of 2600. The current town of Crestwood is about 12-15 miles southwest of the center of St. Louis on the Mississippi River.

(3) Mrs. Deck is again correct with her information concerning the published biography of Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman. However, while Rev. Jeremiah was associated with a Rev. Black while in Missouri, I believe that the source of the information concerning the Vardaman family history actually is from the Rev. J. M. Peck, a very old friend of Jeremiah's, whose biography of Jeremiah actually appears in print.

(4) Mrs. Deck is in error with regard to the 12 children of John² and Elizabeth (nee Morgan) being born over a period of 35 years. As set forth above, they were not married until ca 1744 which would place the birth of the 12 children over a 30 or, at most, 31 year period. If Elizabeth were 17 or 18, or possibly only 16, at the time of the marriage this span would not be all that remarkable.

(5) Despite Mrs. Deck's doubt, the records of the Church at Crab Orchard (KY) support the departure of John for Missouri in 1812. Assuming a birth date of ca 1724, he would have been about 88 years old at this time. Even a birth date as late as ca 1727 would make him about 85 at this time. While Missouri did not become a state until 1821, the Missouri Territory was created in 1812 when Louisiana became the first state to be created out of the territory included in the Louisiana Purchase. I am sure that anyone departing to go to the Missouri Territory during the years 1812-1821 would be considered as removing to "Missouri".

(6) While I would readily accept any rendition of the name Vardaman with vowels a, e, i, or o in any of the vowel positions, as part of our Vardaman family, I do not believe that the name Vaneman or Vandeman should generally be considered as a misspelling of Vardaman. I believe I have seen the name misspelled in this fashion only once where it could be definitely determined that it should be Vardaman. The name Vaneman (or Vandeman) appears to be a distinctive name in its own right and unrelated to the Vardaman name, however otherwise spelled.

(7) One further note -- although not mentioned by Mrs. Deck in her letter: The Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman biography by Rev. J. M. Peck contains a statement that John²'s son, William⁴, was the first of the Vardamans to settle in Kentucky and that he fought in the Battle of Point Pleasant on Oct. 10, 1774, and then removed to Natchez.

This is confirmation of the information that William⁴ who appears in Louisiana as early as 1790 was the son of John².

Point Pleasant is located at the confluence of the Kanawha River with the Ohio River and is now in Kanawha Co., West Virginia. In 1774 it was in the far western reaches of Botetort County, VA.

The Battle of Point Pleasant (part of "Lord Dunsmores War" - he being the then Governor of Virginia), was fought between the Colonials under the command of a General Lewis and the Indians under the command of Chief Cornstalk. The Colonials were victorious thereby securing a huge area of western Virginia for settlement.

Letter No. 5 dated October 24, 1967:

(1) The Rachel Vardiman who left the will in Rusk Co., TX, ca 1858, was Rachel Walker, the wife of William³ Vardeman. They married in Wilkes Co, GA, ca 1796 and he died ca 1816-17 in Jasper Co., GA.

(2) James B. Vardeman was indeed Rachel's youngest son. His wife was Elizabeth Knight whom he had married in Tallapoosa Co., AL, in 1847. Note that James B. Vardeman died ca 1851, only 4 years after his marriage. His widow was only 25 with two young children and she then married her husband's nephew, Thomas Jefferson Vardeman, son of James B.'s older brother, Henry Vardeman and his wife, Willy O'Neal.

(3) Mrs. Deck is correct in her assumption that this Rachel was the ancestress of Mrs. Tierney who descends from one of Rachel's daughters (see commentary on letter no. 1).

Letter No. 6 dated Oct. 25, 1967:

(1) I have already commented on the fact that census records indicate that Sabra Vardaman who married Rane McKinney was born in South Carolina -- see commentary on letter no. 1, item 3.

(2) In 1769 Pittsylvania Co. was just to the south of Bedford Co., the Roanoke (Staunton) River being the dividing line. This was prior to the creation of Henry County from the western half of Pittsylvania Co. in 1777.

The Pigg River joins the Roanoke River from the south at a point that remains in Pittsylvania Co. We know that the Vardamans were actually residents of Bedford County on the north side of the Roanoke River at this time. Apparently Peter Vardaman, son of William¹ Vardaman, was branching out on his own during this period.

(3) I agree with Mrs. Deck in her belief that Israel Peterson was a brother-in-law of William¹ Vardaman. However, the deed from Israel Peterson to William Vardaman was in Lunenburg Co. in 1753, not in Prince George Co.

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(4) I have several different lists of the children of John² Vardaman and his wife, Elizabeth Morgan, as identified by various descendants of this line. While the different lists contain some variations, they could be considered fairly consistent. The main error in these lists is the inclusion of a son named Peter who married Prudence. We know that the Peter who married Prudence was John²'s brother and not his son. Eliminating him from the list of children permits the addition of other named children from various lists to bring the total on each list back to 12.

The constant reference to "the list of children of John Vardaman in Spencer's history" puzzles me. I have personally researched this 2-volume History and have copies of the various references to Jeremiah Vardaman. No where in these volumes have I found a list of his brothers and sisters. It is stated that he was the youngest of 12 children and two brothers, Morgan and Amaziah, are mentioned by name. These two brothers were apparently very active in the church at Crab Orchard.

Letter No. 7 dated Nov. 23, 1967:

(1) The William Vardaman of Rusk Co, TX, referred to by Mrs. Deck is, in fact, William⁶ Vardaman, son of William³ Vardeman and his wife Rachel Walker. See previous commentary at Letters No. 1 and 5 for more information on this family.

(2) Documented proof of the marriage of Joseph Vardeman to Rachel Vining does not exist - nor does such proof exist for the marriages of his brothers William and Thomas to Rachel's sisters, Ruth and Annie Vining. These marriages took place in 1801-03 and recorded marriages in Georgia date only from 1805-06. Rachel and Annie Vining were twins.

The information concerning the time of these marriages does indeed come from the records of a Mr. Guy Vining (deceased) of Hurtsboro, AL. I have copies of Mr. Vining's records which are quite explicit. Also, I descend from Thomas Vardaman and Annie Vining and this information with regard to the three Vardaman brothers marrying the three Vining sisters was related to me by my father when I was still a boy. This same family lore was passed down in other branches of the family as well.

Biographies of Edwy Liles Vardaman and his son, John Forsyth Vardaman, appearing in Alabama histories, both state that Edwy was the grandson of James Vardaman of Newberry Co., SC, and that his (Edwy's) mother was Annie Vining of Jefferson Co., GA.

Letter No. 8 dated February 28, 1968:

(1) I have previously commented on the name "Robert" which appears on the 1752 tithe list with William¹ Vardaman (see Letter No. 1, Item 5). I believe that this should correctly read Peter rather than Robert.

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(2) As I have previously stated, the Peter Vardaman who married Prudence in Virginia was John²'s brother and not his son. I don't believe that John² had a son named Peter although he may very well have had grandsons by that name. The two men mentioned in Mrs. Deck's letter are also, in all likelihood, grandsons of John² or his brother Peter.

(3) Saline Co., MO, lies in west central Missouri on the south side of the Missouri River. It was a part of Cooper Co. at the time that Missouri became a state and later, in 1830 and 1840, was part of Lafayette County - the same as Johnson Co. discussed earlier. It is interesting to note that the Missouri counties which appear in Vardaman history all seem to lie along the south side of the Missouri River -- probably the travel route used by most of the early settlers of that area.

Letter No. 9 dated April 17, 1968:

(1) Here is the deed involving Israel Peterson and William¹ Vardaman previously referred to in Letter No. 6, Item 3. Note that while Israel may have lived in Prince George County, the land that was involved in this deed was in then Lunenburg, later (1754) Bedford, County.

Please bear in mind that, much earlier in Virginia history, Prince George County (created in 1703) covered a vast territory extending from its present boundaries indefinitely to the west. In 1732 Prince George was reduced to a much smaller county and its former western territory placed in newly formed Brunswick County. This process was repeated in 1746 when Brunswick was reduced to a more compact size and all of its then western lands placed in newly formed Lunenburg Co.

As a result, depending on just when Israel Peterson obtained this land, it could very well have been in Prince George or, at least, Brunswick Co. Of course, by the time he conveys it to William it is in a portion of Lunenburg Co. destined to become Bedford Co.

(2) Mrs. Deck is correct in that there were three John Vardamans in Kentucky during the latter part of the 18th Century:

- (a) John² Vardaman (born ca 1722-24) - md. Elizabeth Morgan
- (b) John³ Vardaman (born ca 1744-45) - md. Elizabeth Franklyn
- (c) John⁴ Vardaman (born ca 1764) - md Mary Spaulding

John² was the oldest son of William¹. John³ was the oldest son of John². John⁴ was probably the son of John³.

(3) Mrs. Deck seems to be speculating that John² had more than one wife because she feels that the 12 children attributed to him and Elizabeth Morgan over a period of some 30 years is unrealistic. However, I have never seen any information with regard to John² having any wife other than Elizabeth and, as previously stated, I don't feel that this is unrealistic. In addition,

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the biographies of the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman, born in 1775, all state that he is the son of John Vardaman and Elizabeth Morgan. Since Jeremiah was the youngest child, I believe that this precludes John² having had a second wife. Until such time that further information may come to light, I will continue to believe that Elizabeth was the only wife of John².

(4) The information that Mrs. Deck has furnished with regard to the old John Sappington Cemetery is very interesting but, unfortunately, proves nothing. Old John² Vardaman could very well be buried there with no marker.

Letter No. 10 dated May 20, 1968:

(1) I suspect that Mrs. Deck is right in her feeling that the name Vardiman Clements probably indicates that his mother was a Vardaman. In view of the date (1767), and the fact that he was at least 16 years old as evidenced by his inclusion on the tithable list, I would suspect that she (the mother) was probably a daughter of William¹ Vardaman.

(2) The William Vardaman who sold land in Washington Co., Mississippi Territory, in 1802, was William³, son of William² and grandson of William¹. William³ was married to Rachel Walker. He died in Jasper Co., GA, ca 1816-17. Sylvanus Walker, to whom he sold the land in Washington Co., was his brother-in-law.

Letter No. 11 dated May 24, 1968:

(1) Mrs. Deck is mistaken in that John Vardaman does appear in Bedford Co., VA, records - although not often.

(2) Mrs. Deck is again in error in reference to the New River and Clinch River areas of Virginia. In 1767 they were not located in Orange County which, by then, was a small eastern Virginia County. Instead this entire area of southwestern Virginia was then in Augusta Co. originally formed in 1845. Earlier this area had been part of the western reaches of Orange County.

(3) I am baffled by the reference to the brothers Joseph Jerome and Simeon Vardaman whom she states went to Georgia from Kentucky ca 1810. I have never seen this particular reference before or since. I believe that the Joseph to whom she refers is Joseph the son of James of Newberry Co., SC, who married Rachel Vining in Jefferson Co., GA, ca 1801-03. He later was in Morgan Co., Putnam Co. and Meriwether Co. before finally settling in Harris Co., GA. Among his several sons was one named Simeon - the only Vardaman by this name that I have ever found.

I have seen one other mention of a Joseph Jerome Vardaman in which there is no doubt that the reference is to Joseph Vardaman of Harris Co., GA, son of James Vardaman of Newberry Co.,

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SC. In this reference a daughter of Leverette B. Vardaman of Andalusia, AL, states that her father was a son of Noah Vardaman who came to Harris Co., Georgia, from Kentucky. She adds that Noah's wife was a Mary Lucine McElroy and that Noah's father was Thomas Butts Vardaman a native of Scotland who married Emily Adelaide Evans a native of Ireland. In addition she states that the father of Thomas Butts Vardaman was Joseph Jerome Vardaman of Scotland who married a Jane Breckinridge. She further states that all of this information was given to her by a very elderly aunt.

The above information contains many, many errors and it is hard to understand how such misinformation can come about. The facts are as follows: Joseph Vardaman (the spelling in this branch of the family was later changed to Vardeman) was the son of James Vardaman of Newberry Co., SC. He married Rachel Vining in Jefferson Co., GA, ca 1801-03 and later lived in Morgan, Putnam, and Meriwether Counties before finally settling in Harris Co., GA. His eldest son was, indeed, named Thomas Butts Vardeman and he married Emily Adeline Evans, Aug. 4, 1836, in Harris Co., GA. She was born in GA. They, in turn, had a son Noah (who was born and died in Harris Co., GA, and was never in Kentucky) who married Mary Lucinda McElroy. Noah then had a son named Leverett B. Vardeman who later lived in Andalusia, AL.

In addition, published biographies for this branch of the family state that William¹ Vardaman, the father of James, came from Germany and this is, in all likelihood, true although we can't prove it. While I have several theories as to how the idea that the Vardamans came from Scotland may have originated, there is no way to be sure. Needless to say it is totally incorrect.

Also, I have no explanation as to how the name "Jane Breckinridge" came to be associated with anyone in this branch of the family.

I have extensive Vardaman records in Georgia and have been able to account for all persons of this surname, however spelled.

(4) While I have never made any attempt to trace the name, I believe that the Sylvanus Walker in Virginia, referred to by Mrs. Deck, is the father of a Sylvanus Walker who later appears in Wilkes County, GA, along with William² Vardaman and Micajah and Reuben Bennett (previously referred to in these commentaries - see Letter No. 2, Item 6). He (the Sylvanus Walker in Wilkes Co., GA.) is the father of Rachel Walker who married William³ Vardaman. He is also the father of a Sylvanus Walker who is found in connection with William³ Vardaman in certain land transactions in Washington Co., Mississippi Territory. These latter two men were brothers-in-law.

Letter No. 12 dated June 15(?), 1968:

(1) Again Mrs. Deck questions the birth of 12 children over a 31 year period. I do not understand her reservations about this. In that era it was not at all uncommon for girls to marry

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as young-as 13 or 14. In addition, she doubts that Esther Morgan (wife of Thomas Morgan) could have been Elizabeth's mother because she was reported to have been born ca 1730. If Esther married as young as 14 or 15, Elizabeth could have been her first born and, in turn, married at 14 or 15. This would fit the extant information that we have regarding their births - none of which, of course, is documented.

(2) The great preponderance of existing data supports John and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman as being the parents of Jeremiah Vardaman.

(3) Again we have a discourse on the patently mis-information that the Vardaman family came from Sweden, together with other errors in dates, etc. I do not agree with Mrs. Deck's conclusion that the Vardaman family may have originally emigrated from Europe to New York, later moving through New Jersey to the New Castle area of Delaware. There is no shred of information to support any such suggestion.

It is my belief that the Vardamans emigrated from Germany to either Delaware, itself, or to the Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania, settling in Delaware.

Assuming (a) that John¹'s son William¹ was born ca 1695-98 -- which would make him "about 60 years old" in 1758, as reported in the court record set forth in Clement's History of Pittsylvania County -- and assuming (b) that the Jeremiah Vardaman biography is at least partially correct regarding Jeremiah's grandfather being brought to America when he was a child, I would think that the Vardaman family probably arrived in America ca 1700-05.

Letter No. 13, dated Sept. 18, 1968:

(1) The only item in this letter that I want to comment on is the reference to the History of the Middle New River Settlement and Contiguous Territory by D. E. Johnson.

In 1993 I corresponded with a Sheila Williamson of Tacoma, WA, who informed me that she had personally reviewed a book entitled The New River Early Settlement written in 1983 by Patricia Givens Johnson. This book contains a tale about an encounter between some settlers (including "old" William Verdman) and a band of Shawnee indians in 1758. This story is identical to the story which appears in The History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia by Maud Carter Clement originally published in 1929 and which I have referred to earlier in this document. I have this book.

It is obvious to me that both are recounting the same incident. It is not clear to me how it came to appear in the New River Settlement book. That settlement was much to the west of Pittsylvania Co. and there is absolutely no evidence that "old" William Verdman (Vardaman) was ever in that area although his son John certainly did move through there. Since the Pittsylvania Co. History cites as its source specific Halifax Co., Court Records, dated June 1,

1758, I have to believe that it is the correct version. I do not know what the New River Settlement book cites as its source for this story; however, in 1758 the New River area of Virginia would have been located not in Halifax but in Augusta Co., Virginia.

I wonder what the relationship might be between the book cited in Mrs. Deck's letter and the book reviewed by Sheila Williamson. The titles are not the same although they are similar. Also, the authors are not the same but, again, similar. I wonder if Mrs. Deck's information was somehow flawed and she was actually referring to the same book as Sheila. Sheila states that the book that she reviewed was published in 1983. If this was the original publication date, it could not be the same book that Mrs. Deck is referring to in her letter written in 1968. However, I know from experience that many of these old histories have been republished at various times through the years and Sheila may have noted a subsequent publication date rather than the original date.

Letter No. 14, dated June 1, 1969:

(1) To the best of our knowledge there was never a "Joseph" Vardaman in Bedford Co., VA. Mrs. Deck is on the right track when she suspects that her informant is in error and that he is actually referring to deeds of "old" William¹ Vardaman and his son, William².

(2) Again we encounter the fact that at least one census record shows Sabra Vardaman McKinney as having been born in South Carolina ca 1783. The only reasonable way that this could be correct would be if this Sabra was a daughter of James Vardaman, youngest son of "old" William¹. This is, for me, a very tempting prospect.

If true it would be a powerful argument for James having been married to Sabra Liles prior to his marriage to Jean/Jane Johnson. It would also make this Sabra a sister of my 4th great grandfather, Thomas Vardaman.

Another argument for the above would be the very unusual name "Sabra". Assuming that this is not some type of abstracting error, it would be a powerful argument for the above premise to be true --- daughter being named after her mother, possibly a mother who died giving birth to her.

While I would very much like to believe the above, this premise breaks down in the face of the information in Mrs. Deck's first letter (dated Feb. 11, 1967) that Sabra was a sister of Tabitha Vardaman and daughter of John Vardaman and Elizabeth Franklyn/Franklin. Also, if Sabra was the daughter of James, it would be practically impossible to explain how she could have been in Lincoln Co., KY, in 1797 to marry Rane McKinney. In view of this, I cannot really subscribe to a theory that Sabra Vardaman McKinney was a daughter of James Vardaman of Newberry Co., SC.

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It would be less difficult to believe that "old" William¹'s grandson, John³, son of John², had accompanied him to SC and later returned to Virginia. I have even considered the possibility that John³'s first wife, Elizabeth Franklyn/Franklin, could have died while he was in SC and that he then married Sabra Liles. But this could not be the case since John and Elizabeth gave their consent for daughter Tabitha to marry Rane McKinney in April, 1787, in Mercer Co., KY.

I wish that I had been able to correspond with Mrs. Deck and determine the sources of some of the information that she sets forth regarding this family.

Letter No. 15, dated Dec. 12, 1969:

No comment.

Letter No. 16, dated Mar. 22, 1970:

(1) The Elizabeth Vardeman who married William Menefee in Fincastle Co., VA, in 1774, is thought to be the daughter of John² Vardaman and Elizabeth Morgan. None of John²'s sons would have been old enough to have a daughter of marriageable age in 1774 or 1775.

(2) The William Vardeman who was testator to the marriage bond was undoubtedly William⁴, son of John² and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman and brother of Elizabeth. This is the same William who fought in the Battle of Point Pleasant (see Letter No. 4, Item 7), married Ann Ayres and later went to the Natchez area of Mississippi.

(3) Simon Cockrell, who was also a testator to the above marriage bond, was a son-in-law of John² and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman and brother-in-law of Elizabeth. He was married to Mary Magdalene Vardaman, daughter of John² and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman.

(4) While there were at least three (and maybe 4) different William Vardamans in Virginia during the 1760s, there were only 2 adults by that name in Bedford Co. -- "old" William¹ and his son William². We do not have even an approximate birth year for William²'s son, William³; although, since he married ca 1796 I would guess that he was born ca 1770-75. William⁴, son of John², and grandson of William¹, would have been present but probably not as an adult while his family was in Bedford Co. Again we don't have even an approximate birth date for William⁴ but since he was a Testator for the William Menefee marriage bond in Dec. 1774 and fought in the battle of Point Pleasant, also in 1774, I would hazard a guess that he was born ca 1750 and would have still been in his teens during the 1760s.

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Letter No. 17, dated Apr. 12, 1970:

(1) While I am unfamiliar with the Stephenson Bible record referred to by Mrs. Deck, I believe she is probably correct in her analysis of the Mary Vardeman record. In any event, I would not believe that this person was born in 1721 and didn't die until 1844 -- 123 years old. Not likely!

(2) Mrs. Deck is generally on target with her suppositions in this letter. I am not familiar with "old Michael Woods and his group". I wish I knew more about this incident. However, I think that she is correct with regard to the way that William¹ Vardaman made his way from New Castle, DL, to what would later become Albemarle Co., VA.

Letter No. 18, dated Apr. 27, 1970:

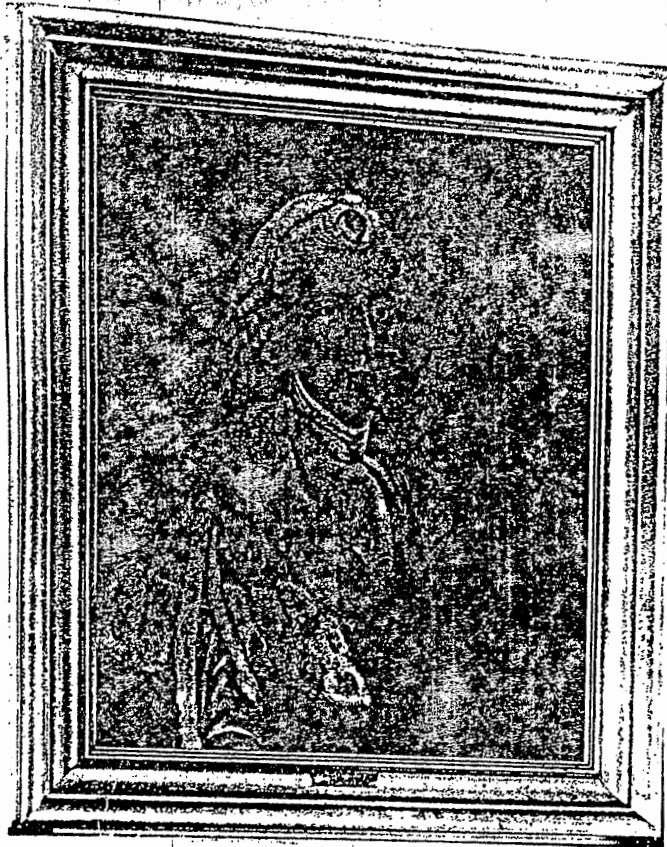
(1) The Jane Vardeman who entered into the marriage contract with Francis Billingslea/Billingsley in Wilkes Co., GA, Dec. 21, 1797, was the widow of William² Vardeman. As previously noted it is supposed that she might have been a Bennett but no corroborating information for this premise has ever been found.

(2) As I have stated previously, I do not believe that there is any connection between the Vardaman family (however spelled) and the Vanbroom, Van Deman or Vandaman names as set forth in this letter. These all appear to be totally unrelated families.

Letter No. 19, dated June 11, 1970:

(1) Mrs. Deck has come to the same conclusion that I have concerning the marriage of Sabra Liles to a Vardaman; i.e., she was possibly the first wife of James Vardaman and the mother of his three sons.

THE END



WILLIAM PITT, EARL OF CHATHAM
This portrait hangs in the court room of Pittsylvania County

THE HISTORY
of
PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY
VIRGINIA

BY
MAUD CARTER CLEMENT



Baltimore
REGIONAL PUBLISHING COMPANY
1987

CHAPTER VII

THE CHEROKEE WAR—WESTERN EXPLORATION

In the hope of enlisting the aid of the friendly Cherokees and Catawbas in the struggle against the French and their Indian allies, Governor Dinwiddie appointed Colonel William Byrd and Colonel Peter Randolph to visit the two nations.

This they did in the summer of 1756, carrying with them many gifts, and successfully concluded a treaty with the tribes whereby they agreed to furnish Virginia with 500 warriors in return for the erection of a fort for the protection of their wives and children against the assaults of the northern Indians. Virginia at once fulfilled her promise, and Fort Loudon on the Tennessee was built the same summer.

In the spring of 1757 when the long promised Indian aid arrived it was found to consist of but 400 warriors and of these only 180 remained at the fort at Winchester, the others immediately returning home. They had evidently become disaffected towards the Virginians through French influence, and now were bent upon mischief, for in their march back and forth through Virginia they committed many acts of violence upon the inhabitants, and slew and tomahawked¹ one of their own members in Col. Clement Read's yard.

When they reached western Halifax and Bedford Counties they became bolder in their defiant attitude and robbed the inhabitants of their horses, plundered their homes, and offered brutal insults to their persons.

The people of Halifax were placed in a most trying position, for it was well known and understood that the Cherokees were our friends and allies, and that their warriors had marched to our aid; yet here were marauding bands of more than a hundred warriors straying over the country and boldly robbing the inhabitants, who hesitated to offer resistance to the intruders for fear of provoking them to war. We may know that the Cherokees were keenly sensible of the plight in which these Virginians were placed, for they remained several weeks terrorizing the countryside.

A letter² of Colonel Fontaine to relatives in England, dated June 11, 1757, said: "Those of the Indians that call themselves our friends do despise us, and in their march through our inhabited country, when going to our assistance, insult and annoy. It is not above a month ago since a

¹Dinwiddie Papers, Vol. 2, p. 609.

²"Memoirs of a Huguenot Family," by Maury.

party of about a hundred and twenty Cherokees, in passing through Lunenburg insulted people of all ranks."

When Col. Read³ notified the Governor of the presence and behavior of the Cherokees his Excellency advised reasoning with them in a mild way for fear of provoking them to open warfare, which he said "would prove of fatal consequences; however the people are not to be robbed and insulted."

But when the people, acting upon the Governor's advice, attempted to reason with the Indians, their peaceful overtures were repulsed and bloodshed followed.

A letter⁴ from the Governor to Col. Fontaine, County Lieutenant, in regard to the situation stated:

May 7, 1757.

"Sir,—

I received y'r L're of April 20, last night and am very sorry for the apprehensions the frontiers are under an attack from the Indians. It is a surprise to me that the People allow Indians to come so frequently among them: the very examining of the Co'try and the Peoples Houses was Suspicion Sufficient to raise the militia and Take 'em all Prisoners. I approve of your sending out James Dillard with fifty men; and please order him to continue out aranging."

The citizens of Bedford County petitioned⁵ to be allowed to kill the Indians, and asked for soldiers to be stationed among them for protection, but their petition was denied in the hope of preventing open conflict.

Governor Dinwiddie's term of office expired January, 1758, and Mr. Blair, president of the Council, became the presiding official of the colony until the arrival of Governor Fauquier in the following June. Blair ordered an investigation into the origin of the troubles in Halifax and Bedford Counties with the Cherokees, and for this purpose a especial court was held at Mays Ferry (now Booker's Ferry), on Staunton River, in Halifax County, on June 1, 1758, when the following depositions⁶ were taken of those who had suffered from Indian outrages or taken part in the conflicts with them:

"Halifax County } At Mays's Ferry on Staunton River June the 1st,
to-wit— } 1758, was taken by Order of Mr. President
Blair—The State cause and process of the three several Engagements,

³Dinwiddie Papers, Vol. 2, p. 612.

⁴Dinwiddie Papers, Vol. 2, p. 619.

⁵"North Carolina Hist. Review," Vol. 2, p. 443.

⁶"Indian Book," Vol. 6, pp. 153-59, at Columbia, South Carolina.

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had between several parties of militia of Halifax and Bedford Counties, in Company with part of Captain Hawkin's men, with several parties of Indians in their march thro' those Counties which is as followeth, to-wit,

John Wheeler, ~~William Verdiman~~, John Hall, Richard Thompson, ~~William Verdiman Junr~~, Robert Jones Junr, and Henry Snow being first sworn, as to the first of the three Engagements they deposed in Substance as followeth.

First John Wheeler aged about 50, John Hall and Richard Thompson aged about 25 each, swore that having been robbed of some Horses sometime in the begining of May, being at a neighbours House, were informed by him, that several Indians were seen to pass thro' the Neighbourhood with a great number of packed Horses, and that several other Horses were missing of that Neighbourhood, to the number of 20 at least That they had Robbed several Houses, and had as was supposed murther'd or—Captivated a family near that Neighbourhood, as the family was missing, and could not be heard of, and that they called themselves Shawanees; Whereupon these three Deponents with four others agreed to go after the Indians, and in a friendly manner demand the Horses, and other things Stolen; That these three Deponents, being on Horse back, the rest on foot, came up with the Indians, And the Deponent Wheeler calling them Brothers, desired to treat with them. The Indians painted and sullen, put themselves in a posture for Battle, And sternly asked if they were for War, The Deponents replied they were not, That they were friends and Brothers and desired peace and quiet delivery of their Horses, and asked the Indians of what Nation they were; upon that they instantly set up the War Whoop; The deponent Wheeler seeing his Horse in the Hands of an Indian took hold of the Bridle, and whilst they were struggling for him, other Indians came up and seized him and the Horse he rode, which he was forced to quit to them after receiving several Blows with a Tomahawke—fled on foot, three Indians pursued him, and three Guns were fired, as he supposed at him and his Companions, as he heard a Bullet whistle by him, and he and his Companions made their escape without any other Hurt or loss, then that of two more Horses, which were then taken from them by the Enemy, That in their flight they met the rest of the Company on Foot, coming to them upon which reinforcement, they came to a resolution once more to follow the Indians, and being joyned afterwards by a few others, did so, making up the Number Eleven tho' some of those Eleven were without Guns, That they came to Staunton River, and when there, these several Depo-

nents, to-wit; John Wheeler, ~~William Verdiman~~, John Hall, Richard Thompson, ~~William Verdiman Junr~~, Robert Jones, Junr, and Henry Snow, Swear that when they arrived at the River Bank they as they imagined heard the Indians WarHalloo on the other side, that they proceeded to pass the River, that when they gott over, on rising th Bank on the other side, they found a small fire just kindled, and at some little distance from thence, they observed the Enemy, upon which all th Deponents say that ~~Old William Verdiman aged about sixty~~, went foremost, and that they all followed close at his heels, that when they came up to the Enemy they found they had tyed their Horses, pretty many in Number to the Bushes, that most of the Indians were painted and other then painting, some black some Red, but mostly black, that when they came near ~~Old Verdiman~~ pulled off his Hatt and Bowed and accosted them in terms of peace, and Friendship, and said Gentlemen we come in a Brotherly manner to ask you for our Horses, and other Goods, that you have taken from us, that the Indians gave a kind of a Grunt, and appeared determined for mischief, stripped themselves threw out the priming of their Guns, fresh primed and Cocked them, struck the Tomahawks into Trees, and in an angry manner demanded of the Deponents if they would fight; that whilst Verdiman who was still uncovered Bowing and Treating with them, the Enemy Indeavored Inviron them, and had actually got them into a half Circle before the Deponents were aware upon which, and young Verdiman observing that two Indians had pointed their Guns, they the Deponents all retreated backwards with their Faces to the Enemy, and took to trees, that on the retreat, the Indians threw their Tomahawks, and that two of them narrowly missed two of their men, that one of them would have hit ~~Old Verdiman~~, but that he luckily parried it with an Elder Stick he had in his hand (for he was one of the number of those that had no Gun and the Indians pursuing and they retreating in Order, they were nedrove to the River Banck, where they must have inevitably perished had they then attempted to have crossed, that on the retreat a Gun was fired upon which the Engagement ensued, and many Guns discharged on both sides, in which Engagement the Father of John Hall one of the deponents fell, and being mortally wounded soon after died, that during the Engagement those of the Deponents who had Guns were obliged to fly from tree to tree to one another for a shott of Powder and Lead being very scarce among them, that in the Engagement three Indians fell, that at last their Powder and Lead being Expended they fled back

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over the River in different places, and being all met again on the other side, they went to a Neighbours House, supplied themselves with more Ammunition, and went back again to place where the Engagement was to look for their wounded friend, who they found expiring, three Indians dead in the Field and much plunder, that they scalped the Indians, threw their dead Bodies into the River, and brought away their dying friend and the plunder, and that their Friend soon after dyed, the account of Spoil found in the Field consisting of Horses, Saddles, Bridles, Mens, and Womans apparel &c., is herewith sent Contained in two papers Numbered 1. 2.

To give the particulars and cause of the second Engagement William Morgan, Pinkethman Hawkins, Thomas Overstreet, and George Thomas were sworn.

Pinkethman Hawkins on his Oath deposed, that being Ordered out by Colonel Talbot to join Captain Mead, to go in pursuit of the Enemy who had killed Hall, stole many Horses, Robbed and plundered many Families in Bedford and Halifax Countys, and was supposed to have killed or Captivated other Families who were then missing, in his March he fell upon the House of one Standiford (where he found one Byrd whose wife the Indians had taken and threatned to carry her away as a Squa, though she afterwards luckily made her escape, whilst the Enemy was Busy in plundering her Husbands House) and he found the House of Standiford strip of everything, the Bed Ticks ripped open and carryed away, and the feathers scattered all over the House, and the Family gone, whilst there he heard a hollowing and noise of Indians. Ordered his men then with him fifteen in Number to go with twenty five of the Inhabitants, who had collected themselves, and way lay the Indians at a pass he was advised by his Guide, they must go through, and extend a line along the Ridge by that pass as long as the number of men would admit of, and wait the coming of the Indians; for that he himself and another, namely one Tarbro, would go to the Indians (who by the noise he imagined was over the River not far of) and treat with them in a Friendly manner about the Prisoners and Plunder they had gott, and that he charged them, if they should see the Indians pass by with him a Prisoner, or, that they should hear of his death, or, if they should pass by with their Horses Packed, they might conclude his Treaty with them had proved ineffectual, and Ordered them if either of these things should happen, to treat the Indians (more especially as all along their March, they had declared themselves Shawanees), as Enemies,

and on the March of his men, in consequence of such Orders, He Hawkins, with Tarbro, as was concerted proceeded forwards to treat with the Indians, that when they came to the River Eight or Ten Indians came over the River to them, that he endeavoured to come to terms with them, proposed peace and Friendship, and called them Brothers, they surlily answered, no, no, no Brothers, English damned Rogues, and clapping their Hands, on their Breasts called themselves, and making signs signified to them, there was a great many Shawanees all about them, that the wood and Mountains were full of them, that he still mentioned peace and told them that he and Tarbro were unarmed and came as Brothers, but the Indians not withstanding his mentions for peace, Striped him of his Coat, Waiscoat, Shirt, Shoes, Stockings, and Hatt, and gave him several Blows with their Tomhawks and ordered him away, he remembering that in his Breeches (which was all the Coaths they had left him) he had about five shillings in Cash, gave it to one of the Indians, who thereupon returned him his Coat, upon which the Deponent Hawkins thinking they were in a better humour, again proposed to treat with them, upon which they beat him and Tarbro very severely, and Cut him thro' the upper Lip with a Blow of a Scalping knife, led them both by the Hands up the River Banck and ordered them to run away or they would kill them, which Order they readily Obeyed, and being at two great a distance, and as they were bare footed did not come up with the men till the Battle with the Indians was over.

William Morgan on his Oath deposed that being one of the Twenty five that had joined Hawkin's Men excited thereto by the Complaints of the People for the continual and repeated Robberies committed among them by the Indians, and more particularly on Account of the several Familys missing supposed to be killed or Captivated by the Indians, and of the Caption of Byrd his Neighbours Wife, he with the others on the receipt of Hawkins's Order, marched under the direction of one Shoat who was their Guide to take possession of the Ridge, mentioned in Hawkins's Deposition, where they posted themselves, very advantageously, that whilst they were there waiting for the Enemy, Byrd, who had watched the Fate of Hawkins and Tarbro, came to them and informed them of the abuse received by them from the Indians, and directed them to be ready prepared for the Enemy was approaching, in a very little time after they heard the Indian War Whoop and a Gun fired upon which a runing fit began, that the Indians tried to get them into a half moon three times which at last they effected and that in the

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Engagement he saw two Indians fall, that at last the Enemys half moon being broken, both parties fled from each other.

Thomas Overstreet swore in Substance as Morgan the foregoing Deponent George Thomas being sworn Deposed in Substance as followeth, That the Indians had Stole a Stallion from one John Echols, that Echols bought a Horse of the Deponent to follow the Indians to give them in Exchange for his Stallion, that the Indians took him from Echols also, and Shot at him, that their Number to about forty had a large Number of Pack Horses with them; That they Robbed Striped one Wollocks and beat him; That being sent by Colonel Talbot for relief of Men, in his way met some men who had been striped and beaten by the Indians, that he went with them to the House of one Morgan, a Brother to Morgan one of the Deponents, which they found open and plundered, and all the Family missing, that he found abundance of Feathers Strewed about the Yard, that in the path a little distance from the House they found a Childs Shirt and Cap, and some pieces of Rope and Hickory Bark, on which they concluded the Family was bound taken and carryed away Prisoners; that a little further they found the Patent of Morgans Land and some paper money; That they proceeded to the next House which they found in the same order and condition, with the Feathers thrown about, and the Family missing; That they went farther to other Houses and found them empty, the Family's gone and the Doors of their Houses Tomahawked and cut with many other signs of wanton Mischief, That these appearances induced him to join the twenty four who joined Hawkins' fifteen (the rest of Thomas's Deposition was the same in Substance as Morgans and Overstreets with respect to their Orders and the Engagement with the Indians, only with this addition) that the day after the Engagement, he this Deponent with others came to View the Field where the Engagement happened, where they found one Indian dead which was scalped, Nineteen fine Horses, and much plunder, and among the plunder a French Scalping Knife, note, that this second Engagement happened soon after the first but not with the same Indians.

To the third Engagement were examined upon Oath George Watts, Charles Brigh, Samuel Brown, and John Craig.

George Watts on his Oath deposed that on or about the 23^d day of May one Franciscae, having informed the people in his Neighbourhood that he was Robbed of his Horse by Twelve Indians, that they had burnt a House and Tomhawked a woman; a Sergeant belonging to

Captain Haristones Company in Bedford, with Nine men of which the Deponents were a part were Ordered to follow the Indians, to know who they were and treat with them about the delivery of the Horses and things Stolen. That they went in search of them, and when they came in sight of them which was but a few miles from Bedford Court House the Sergeant and four of the others would proceed no farther, not liking the looks of the Indians, but that he with the three others the Deponents, proceeded to march up to them; That when they came near (as they were Ordered) they demanded of what Nation they were, and they answered Cherokees, they thereupon told them they were Brother and as a Token they were so Grounded their Firelocks and told the Indians to do so to and meet and shake Hands and talk about the Horses &c^a they had taken from the White men their Friends, upon which the Indians immediately striped themselves (as is their Custom when determined for Battle) took to Trees, and prepared to Engage. That this Deponent being foremost, took, as they rest also did, to a tree that an Indian fired at him, that he returned the fire and saw an Indian fall, they these Deponents gave Ground and at last ran, that the Indians did not pursue, that they ran to a Plantation near, where were some women and Children, and in a small time returned to the Place where they fought the Indians, and found them gone and so Plunder and Stolen Horses left behind them, which they took and carry away.

Charles Bright Swore the same in Substance with Watts, only with this Circumstance added, to wit, that before the Indians fired and Watts had returned the fire on which an Indian fell, the Indians had got them into a half Moon, and that the Bullet shot by the Indian at Watts was between Watts's head and the Bark of the Tree he stood behind: that he beat of much of the Bark.

Samual Brown deposed the same in Substance as Watts and Bright. John Craig deposed the same in substance as Watts, Bright and Brown with this addition, to-wit; the twelve as he supposed, Cut thro' the Fire of his House and Robbed it.

Now follows the Substance of some Depositions taken to prove the Robberies committed by the Indians on several of the Inhabitants, and to prove they called themselves Shawanees, taken at the Instance and request of the persons concerned in the several Engagements.

John Wallocks being sworn deposed in substance as followeth: That having heard of much Mischief being done and of many Robberies

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committed, by the Indians in Bedford and Halifax County's, the Neighbourhood where he lived collected themselves together at one of the Neighbours Houses till the Indians should pass by, or the fright be over, that whilst he was there some people came to them who had been just Striped, Robbed and beaten by the Indians, and that they believed the Indians by the Rout they took would pass that way, along a Road that ran near the Plantation where they then were, that he excited by an Imprudent Curiosity to see them, went to the road along which he supposed they would pass, and hiding himself in convenient place, waited their coming, he presently heard them rideing Hallooing and whooping, and when they came pritty near him they stopped in an open convenient part of the road to try the Horses they had but just Stolen, and continued their sometime, pacing up and down the Road diverting themselves, till he, skipping from one hiding place to another, the better to discover what they were about, was unhappily espied by them and caught; when they caught him they Stripped him of every thing but his Shirt, took away his Gun Powder-Horn and Shot Bag, shook their Tomhawks over his head, and calling themselves Shawanees beat him pritty much, and dismissed him, ordering him to run, and he running pleased at his Escape fell upon another Indian who took his Shirt, gave him another threshing, and sent him off Stark naked Ordering him to Run and as he fled, threw a Stone at him which had well nigh knocked him down, and cut his Back in a terrible manner.

John Yates being sworn deposed, that he in company with one Philip Preston were rideing along the road together not having heard anything about the Indians, or suspecting anything about them. He heard a Gun fired close behind him, and turning about discovered three Indians close at his Heels, That they could have made their Escape, But on the Indians calling out Cherrockees and holding out their hands in token of friendship, and fearing to be fired at should they attempt to Escape, they stopped; The Indians came up to them and Shook hands, and then instantly pulled them off their Horses, beat them with Sticks, Stripped them naked, took all they had from them, pointed their Guns at them, and Ordered them to run which Order they instantly Obeyed.

Philip Preston being sworn deposed the same in substance as John Yates.

Patrick Johnson being sworn, deposed that a parcel of Indians of what Nation he knew not, came to his House shot a Bull in his yard. Robbed him of eight Horses and all he had in the World.

Hartman Doran on his Oath deposed that he was Robbed by Indians of all that he had.

James Moore on his Oath deposed that the Indians came to his House set up the War Whoop, and called themselves Shawanees, that he in their possession the Horse of Robert Lucas his Neighbour Lo with goods—That they demanded of him his Horse, that they beat unmercifully that they shot two Guns, that ye Powder of one flew in face, that they took two mares from him and Robbed him of his gun.

John Allcorn on his Oath deposed that being at home, he heard Gun fire, heard the War Whoop, that he hid himself, and that Robbed him of every thing in his House.

George Adams deposed much to the same purpose, and that Robbed him Adams, of all he had in his House.

Robert Pepper deposed that on the 7th day of May he and his Mother being at home, some Indians came rideing up to his house that he fired their Guns, others flourished their Tomhawks, that they called themselves Cherrockees and told them many Shawanees were coming that they took from him three Riffle Guns his Powder-Horn and Shot Bag, Struck his Mother with a Tomhawke, presented a Gun to him and struck him with a Tomhawke and with the But end of his Gun struck out two of his Teeth, knocked down his Mother, and Robbed the House of every thing in it.

The particulars of the several Robberies are Contained in the papers herewith sent, number No. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. which papers were sworn to, and the Quaker Echols letter is also herewith sent. In Obedience His Honour Mr. President Blair's Commands we the subscribers met Mays Ferry on Staunton River in the County of Halifax on Thursday the first day of June 1758 and caused to come before us the several parts in the several foregoing depositions, named, and on Oath Examined them touching the State, Cause and process of the three Several Engagements between the militia and several Parties of Indians, and have set down as near as possible the sum and substance of the whole.

Witness our hands the 1st day of June
aforesaid—

Clement Read.
Mathew Talbot."

One would judge from these depositions that the people of Halifax and Bedford showed much restraint and patience in dealing with

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NOTES by J. H. VARDAMAN
on the
BIOGRAPHY OF REV. JEREMIAH VARDAMAN

(As set forth on pages 143-160 of the DRAPER MANUSCRIPTS, VOL. 23S)

--- June 8, 1992 ---

The bio-sketch of the life of Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman (1775-1842) in Vol. 23S of the DRAPER MANUSCRIPTS by Lyman C. Draper is from an interview by Mr. Draper with Rev. William H. Vardaman, son of Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman, in St. Charles Co., Missouri, May 25-26, 1868.

While this is an extensive article on the life of the Rev. Jeremiah, it contains only brief, limited references to his ancestry. These can be stated as follows:

- (1) The original Vardeman (sic) came from Sweden 260 years ago and
- (2) married a Welch lady.
- (3) One of their sons settled in Virginia. He had a large family, one of whom was John, the father of Rev. Jeremiah Vardeman.
- (4) This John Vardeman died on Grovor's Creek, St. Louis Co., MO, perhaps about 1835, aged 104. He was buried at Captain John Sappington's, about 15 miles west of St. Louis.
- (5) One of his daughters, Mary Magdalene, married Simon Cockrill and they lived together 80 years - he a noted hunter and trapper in Kentucky and Missouri. They both died within a day of each other, on the borders of Clay Co., MO, she at 100 and he at 105.

This account of the Rev. Jeremiah's ancestry is somewhat briefer than that which may be found in other published accounts of Baptist Church History and contains no reference to the Vardaman's originally arriving in South Carolina as do the other accounts. Also, this account provides an intervening generation between the original Vardeman to come from Sweden and John, the father of Jeremiah. It has often been conjectured that the other ancestral histories of Rev. Jeremiah have somehow omitted a generation. The inclusion of this intervening generation allows for a much more reasonable projection of Vardaman ancestry as well as one which more readily agrees with known facts.

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With regard to the four points outlined above:

(1) The 260 year elapsed time has to be in error. Possibly the narrator meant to say that the first Vardaman arrived from Sweden 160 years ago - not 260. Since the date of the interview was 1868, 260 years earlier would have been ca 1608.

Delaware, one of the two potential sites of the arrival of Vardamans in America, was not discovered by Henry Hudson until 1609. It was explored in 1615-16 by Cornelius Hendrickson and first settled ca 1624 by Walloons (from Belgium, then under the Netherlands government). This settlement didn't last. The first permanent settlement was not until 1631. In 1638, the city of Wilmington was established as Ft. Christina by the New Sweden Co. Delaware came under Swedish control ca 1642 and in 1654 the Swedes expelled the Dutch. The Dutch temporarily regained control in 1655 but by 1683 Delaware had come under English control. In 1693 Delaware united with Pennsylvania, but separated again in 1704.

In view of the above, it is unreasonable to believe that any Vardaman arrived in Delaware in 1608, or, for that matter, in any ensuing year prior to the middle of the century. On the other hand, had they arrived about 160 years prior to Mr. Draper's interview with Rev. W. H. Vardaman, this would place the time as ca 1708. Since our first known official Vardaman reference is the will of John Vardaman in New Castle Co., Delaware, in 1714, this would seem to fit very well.

With regard to the possible arrival of the Vardaman's in South Carolina, it should be noted that while South Carolina was first discovered in 1521, this was by Spaniards. Although the Spaniards attempted settlements, none lasted and the Spaniards eventually abandoned their efforts to colonize this area. The English first became involved in 1629 and in 1663 King Charles I granted the area of South Carolina to 8 English Lords (The Lords Proprietors). The first permanent English settlement was established in 1670 at Albemarle Point on the west bank of the Ashley River. In 1680 this settlement was moved a short distance to the present site of the city of Charleston. Settlement by the English, together with French Protestants (Huguenots), gradually extended up and down the coast. However, there was no interior penetration until ca 1730.

In view of the above history of South Carolina, the Vardamans could not have arrived there from Europe prior to ca 1680, some 180-190 years prior to 1868. So, again the 260 year figure mentioned in the Draper interview would seem to be impossible. If one were inclined to accept South Carolina as the site of the original arrival of the Vardamans in America (which I do not), a 160 year figure would, again, seem to be much more acceptable.

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(2) It is a fact that one John Vardaman married an Elizabeth Morgan in Brunswick County, Virginia ca 1742-44 (not South Carolina as some histories have it). Elizabeth Morgan was of Welch descent and, for all any of us know, may have very well been born in Wales coming to America with her parents. However, she did not marry the original John Vardaman who came to America. The John whom she married in Brunswick Co., VA, in the early 1740s, was undoubtedly the son of William Vardaman of the same location (the same William of the 1783 Newberry Co., SC, will). This William Vardaman is very probably William, son of John Vardaman of New Castle Co., DL, and mentioned in John's 1714 will.

It should be noted here that, because of the way counties were formed in Virginia, a person could have been living in Brunswick County 1732-1746, Lunenburg County 1746-1754 and Bedford County 1754 and after without having moved an inch. Or a person could have been living in the first two above and then in Halifax from 1752 on, or in Halifax from 1752-1767 and Pittsylvania from 1767 on, also without moving at all.

In view of the above, while there is no argument that there was a marriage of a Vardaman with a lady of Welch descent, this would have been the Rev. Jeremiah's parents, John and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman and not some prior generation.

(3) As previously indicated, this would seem to fit known facts very well. John Vardaman of New Castle Co., DL, who left a will in 1714, had a son named William - a minor at the time the will was written. This William married Magdalena Peterson in Wilmington, DL, in 1720. A William Vardaman next appears in Goochland Co., VA, in 1734-35, and is extensively documented in southside Virginia records through the 1740s, 50s and 60s.

Since there is no record of this William (son of John) and wife, Magdalena, in Delaware later than 1724 (baptism of a female child at Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington), this would appear to be the same William Vardaman who is granted a tract of land in Goochland County. This William Vardaman did indeed have 4 sons and an unknown number of daughters. The oldest son was named John and documented records lead to the conclusion that this is the John Vardaman who migrated westward through Virginia into Kentucky eventually settling in Lincoln Co. This John was the father of Jeremiah.

There is a record of a William Vardaman, together with his wife, being involved in certain land transactions in New Castle County, DL, in the 1740-50 era. However, this is William the son of Johannes Vardaman. Johannes was the elder son of the John Vardaman of the 1714 will.

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(4) If the John Vardaman, father of Jeremiah and grandfather of Wm. H. Vardaman, did indeed die around 1835 at the stated age of about 104, this would place his birth ca 1730. While such an age may stretch our credulity, it is certainly within the realm of possibility. While there are those who doubt that a man of John's purported age (80-90 at the time) would be moving to a new, untamed frontier area, this move is supported by an entry in the annals of the Crab Orchard (Kentucky) Church. This entry, as set forth on page 233 of Spencer's History of Kentucky Baptists, is as follows:

'In October of that year (1812), the church at Crab Orchard entered on its book of records an order, "that old John Vardeman have a letter of demission." The term "old" was designed to distinguish him from his son of the same name. With this evidence of his fellowship with the children of God, he moved to Missouri, where he died at the age of 109 years.'

If born in the early 1730s, "old" John would have been in his early 80s at the time of this move. Note the slight discrepancy between John's age of 104 (as stated by his grandson, Wm. H. Vardaman in the Draper Mss.) and the age of 109 as set forth above for his death. I don't believe this slight difference is significant and both are much more believable than the age of 125 as set forth in some other published histories.

On the other hand, we have the fact that John could not have been born ca 1730 and married in 1742-44. He would have been only 12-14 years old at that time and marriage would have been out of the question. However, if he were - say - 4 years older, born in 1726 instead of 1730, and married in 1744 rather than one or two years earlier, he would have been 18 at the time of the marriage - an age that, while still very young, could be considered acceptable

If John's father, William, is the same William as the son of John Vardeman of New Castle Co., DL, of the 1714 will and who married Magdalena Peterson in 1720, it is very possible that John was born before 1730. We know of the birth of a daughter, Maria, to this couple ca 1724 and, of course, it is very possible that all children born to this couple between 1720 and 1730 could have been daughters.

It is stated in the Draper interview that John Vardeman died on Grovor's Creek and was buried at Captain John Sappington's about 15 miles west of St. Louis. According to Dr. Edward P. Moore, a census of this cemetery is in existence but no marker for a Vardaman by any spelling was placed or still stands. Two John Sappingtons are buried in this cemetery:

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(1) John, born May 28, 1790, died March 27, 1864 (with wife Sarah) and (2) John, died Sept. 10, 1815, age 64 (making the date of his birth 1751).

Of particular interest is the wife of the latter John Sappington: Jemima Sappington who died Sept. 27, 1814, age 54 (making the date of her birth 1760). I have been told that there exists (although I do not have it) a record of a Sappington-Vardaman marriage.

There is a record of the baptism of a child, Jemima, father William, on March 8, 1741, in the Records of Baptisms by Rev. John Craig, 1740-49. This Jemima is undoubtedly the daughter of the same William of southside Virginia who is the father of John and three other sons. She would be the sister of "old" John Vardaman. However, there is no information to indicate that she is the Jemima, wife of John Sappington, or to otherwise link her to the Sappingtons. Nevertheless, the dates involved would make it possible for the Jemima, wife of John Sappington buried near St. Louis, to be the daughter of Jemima Vardaman (baptized 1741), daughter of William.

As we know, the territory comprising what is now the state of Missouri was obtained by the U.S. as part of the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. It was first part of the Louisiana-Missouri Territory established in 1805, and then, in 1812, when the state of Louisiana was established, it became the Missouri Territory. Statehood was achieved August 12, 1821 - the 24th state in the Union and the second state to be carved out of the territory acquired in the Louisiana Purchase.

(5) The Virkus Compendium, Vol. 1, page 559, states that Rev. Simon Cockrill, 1742-1839, married Mary Magdalene Vardaman and that their son John lived 1784-1837. Other information that I have received from other researchers indicates that Mary Magdalene Vardaman was born in 1748, married Simon Cockrill in 1765, and died in 1839 in Missouri.

The above dates, if correct, would make Simon only 97 years old and Mary Magdalene 91 at the time of their deaths, rather than the ages of 105 and 100 as stated by their nephew, Rev. Wm. H. Vardaman, in the Draper interview. Nevertheless, these are still very advanced ages and Rev. Vardaman was undoubtedly repeating information furnished to him by others. A point to note is that the above information providing the year of death for both husband and wife as 1839 would tend to agree with the statement in the Draper interview that the two died within a day of each other.

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Additional information in my files indicates that the Cockrills were still in Virginia as late as 1800 when Simon represented Russell County in the Virginia state legislature for various terms during the period 1791-1800. It is also my understanding that the Johnson County (Missouri) Historical Society states that the Vardaman family settled in Cooper County, MO, and that the Cockrill family came at the same time (no dates specified). Johnson County was not established until 1835, presumably from Cooper County, although I do not have this information.

As reported by the St. Louis Historical Society, Simon Cockrill, minister, wife Mary Magdalene, represented Clay County in the Missouri state legislature, 1822-24. This was immediately after Missouri became a state (1821). Although I do not have a history as to how counties were formed in Missouri, I do know that Clay is in the far western part of the state to the north of Kansas City. Cooper and Johnson Counties are in the center of the state (Cooper is on the Missouri River). All are somewhat distant from St. Louis County, the purported place of death of John Vardaman. In view of this, I doubt that "old" John Vardaman could have been in Missouri with the Cockrills. The Vardaman family who settled in Cooper County along with the Cockrills must be some of John's descendants.

I have no doubt that the Simon Cockrill family in western Missouri, as outlined above, is the same Simon Cockrill who was in western Virginia previously. While the Draper interview emphasizes that Simon was a noted trapper and hunter, he was also a Minister of the Gospel (presumably Baptist) and performed many marriages of record in what is now Russell County in western Virginia.

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June 8, 1992

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*** V A R D A M A N ***

DUTCH, GERMAN or SWEDISH?

by J. H. Vardaman
July 12, 1992

Based on information that I have been able to develop, there are three possibilities relative to the origin of the Vardaman name:

- (1) Dutch
- (2) German
- (3) Swedish

The first - Dutch - is set forth in the published biography of Parthenia Antoinette Vardeman Hague. Parthenia, a Civil War era author and tutor, was a granddaughter of Col. Joseph Vardeman and his wife, Rachel Vining, of Harris County, Georgia. Joseph was one of the three Vardaman brothers who came from the "Dutch Fork" area of Newberry County, South Carolina, to marry three Vining sisters in Georgia. This branch of the family came to spell their name with an "e" as in Vardeman.

In her biography (author unknown), as published in the History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biographies (Vol. III) by Thomas McAdory Owen, it is stated that her paternal (Vardeman) ancestors came from the Netherlands. However, this biography is riddled with errors and I do not ascribe much credit to this statement regarding the origin of the Vardamans.

In fact, I suspect that the "Dutch" origin theory may have derived from "Dutch Fork", a rather broad and ill defined area of upper South Carolina between the Broad and Saluda Rivers, originally in old Ninety Six District, later Newberry County, where the Vardaman brothers were born. This area was originally settled, 1735-1750, by German emigrants from the Palatinate area of Germany, who traveled down the Rhine River to the Netherlands port of Rotterdam from whence they sailed to America. The name "Dutch Fork" derives from the German word "Deutsch" (meaning German).

However, there is absolutely no information to connect our Vardaman family with these early German emigrants. The earliest known Vardaman emigrant to this area came from Bedford County, Virginia, ca 1766.

The second possibility - German - is provided in the published biographies of my Great-Grandfather, John Forsythe Vardaman of Coosa County, AL, and his father (my great-great-grandfather), Edwy Liles Vardaman. John F. Vardaman's biography is included in the Memorial Record of Alabama, Vol. I, first published in 1893.

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The E. L. Vardaman biography is stated by relatives to have been written by his son, John Forsythe Vardaman, who was not only a school teacher but also Superintendent of Education for Coosa County. While the author of the John Forsythe Vardaman biography is unknown, the information contained in each is so similar, especially as to the ancestral information included in each, that it is reasonable to assume that it, too, was written by John F. Vardaman, thereby making it an autobiography. The wording of the John F. Vardaman biography, together with the publication date of the Memorial Record of Alabama in which it is included, allows it to be dated to the early 1890s.

E. L. Vardaman's biography is included in the History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography by Thomas McAdory Owen, Vol. IV. I do not know the publication date of this history. The only date found on the title page was a copyright date of 1921 which is 15 years after John F. Vardaman's death. Possibly the material published in this book was accumulated over many years before finally appearing in published form.

Again, both of these biographies contain errors, and, in the face of conflicting information, I am reluctant to accept this statement of the Vardaman's origin as authoritative. Nevertheless, the German origin theory is somewhat supported by an old newspaper clipping (copy attached) concerning the name Vardaman. This article states that the name is of German origin.

The third possibility - Swedish - comes from the published biographies (at least three) of noted Baptist minister, Rev. Jeremiah Vardeman of Kentucky. At least two, and possibly all three, of these biographies are from completely independent sources - that is, one was not the result of the other. Unfortunately, these biographies, too, contain identifiable errors making acceptance of the Swedish origin theory less than conclusive.

The three Jeremiah Vardeman biographies that I refer to are:

- (1) As included in the Draper MSS by Lyman C. Draper, from an interview with the Rev. William H. Vardeman, son of Rev. Jeremiah, May 25-26, 1868.
- (2) By Rev. J. M. Peck, as included in The Christian Repository, originally published in August, 1854, and republished in February, 1857. This biography by Rev. Peck is also very similar (almost identical) to that included in The History of the Salt River Association, Missouri, by Wiley Jones Patrick, published in 1909. The biography of Jeremiah Vardeman which appears in the Salt River History is included in a chapter entitled "The Regions Beyond" authored by Rev. J. M. Peck.

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Local History & Genealogy Dept.
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(3) As published in the History of Kentucky Baptists 1795-1885, by J. H. Spencer, printed for the author in 1885. The biography of Rev. Jeremiah as included in this history is similar, although not identical, to that by Rev. Peck. The Spencer article contains information not included in the Peck biography. Rev. Peck is mentioned once by Mr. Spencer in a footnote, indicating that at least some of the material in Spencer's work may have been obtained from Rev. Peck's writings. The source of the additional information included in Spencer's History is unknown.

Based on additional information in my files, it appears very likely that Rev. J. M. Peck was a personal friend of Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman. At the top of the last page of the Draper MS article it is stated that Rev. Vardaman greatly esteemed the Rev. J. M. Peck. While I have copies of all three of the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman biographies mentioned above, I have not yet completed critiques of the latter two.

Attached are copies of:

- (1) The Parthenia Vardeman Hague biography together with my critique of same.
- (2) The John Forsythe Vardaman biography together with my critique of same.
- (3) My critique of the Rev. Jeremiah Vardeman biography from the Draper MSS. The biography itself is much too bulky to be included as part of this article. The ancestral information included in the biography is very brief and is set forth point by point in the critique so that nothing would be added by its inclusion. I have also included a copy of a short article from Family Puzzlers explaining the Draper MSS.
- (4) A copy of the newspaper article concerning the origin of the Vardaman name.

Also attached are some additional items pertaining to the origin of the Vardaman name as follows:

- (1) A copy of a letter from Mr. Edward P. Moore, Jr., of the University of Mississippi, to Mr. Guy Vining of Hurtsboro, AL, dated Sept. 17, 1970, in which Mr. Moore states (see last page) that Mr. Spencer did not get his information concerning the Vardeman ancestry direct from Rev. Jeremiah as had long been thought, but from a very old fellow minister who tried to recall what Rev. Jeremiah had told him.

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I suspect that this is a reference to Rev. J. M. Peck and it has a negative impact on the authenticity of the information included in Spencer's History. On the other hand, we know that Rev. Peck first published a biography of Rev. Jeremiah as early as 1854, only 12 years after Jeremiah's death. I would think that the information in the 1854 biography must be considered more accurate as to what Rev. Jeremiah may have related to Rev. Peck.

Additional information, not included in the original 1854 biography, and not disclosed until ca 1885 (the time of the Spencer History) - some 30 years later and 42 years after Jeremiah's death - would have to be considered much more suspect.

There are, of course, other interesting items in Mr. Moore's letter. However, please bear in mind that it was written in 1970, over 20 years ago, and we now have information presumably not available to Mr. Moore back then. Consequently, I do not necessarily agree with all of his comments and conclusions. Please note that this letter is as copied by Mr. Vining into his record book. It is not the original writing of Mr. Moore.

(2) A copy of a letter dated June 12, 1967, from Dorothy McKinney Deck of Kentucky to Dorothy Tierney of Louisiana. Dorothy Tierney is a descendant of a William Vardeman and Rachel Walker. This William Vardeman died in Jasper County, GA, ca 1816. Dorothy Deck is a descendant of the John Vardeman family who settled in Kentucky.

I have included this item because of the remark regarding the Vardeman ancestry as set forth in Spencer's History. Please note the similarity of Mrs. Deck's statement in this letter to the statement by Mr. Moore in his letter to Guy Vining. The Rev. Black referred to in Mrs. Deck's letter is, in all probability, the Rev. J. M. Peck with whom we are already familiar.

(3) A copy of a letter dated June ?, 1968, from Dorothy Deck to Dorothy Tierney containing some interesting information concerning her attempts to determine whether the Vardaman name might be Swedish or Dutch.

While the accounts in this letter are interesting, they are hardly conclusive. In fact, while the information from Mr. Johnson, author of The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware, would seem to be very promising, our current information regarding the Vardamans of that era would appear to preclude any spelling distortions occasioned by inter-marriage of Swedes and Dutch.

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The very earliest record that we have of a Vardaman in this country is the 1714 will of John Vardaman of New Castle Co., Delaware. This John Vardaman, together with his family, was, argueably, the first Vardaman to arrive in America. There has been little, if any, variation in the name since then. What little variation has occurred is mainly in the vowels - "a", "e", and "i", and sometimes even "o", being used somewhat interchangeably on various occasions. Variations in the consonants are rare and can usually be reasonably attributed to clerical or abstracting errors.

In addition to the above, also attached is a very short article regarding the Rev. Jeremiah Vardeman by Dr. Ronald F. Deering as published in the Baptist History and Heritage, October, 1986. This is a Baptist publication published quarterly. Dr. Deering is the Librarian at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY.

I am convinced that all of these biographies rest on the oral communication of ancestral information and family history from one generation to another. Such family lore can come to be distorted - sometimes extremely so - with the passage of time.

J. H. Vardaman
361 Wright's Mill Ct.
Alpharetta, GA 30201

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Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

Will: John Vardaman
1714/15
New Castle County, Delaware
.....

In the Name of God Amen I John Vardaman of Apoquinny Creek in the County of New Castle upon Delaware being this Seventeenth day of March in the first year of Our Sovereign Lord George by the Grace of God of Great Britaine France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith in Anno Dom 1714/15 sick in body but of perfect mind & memory calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and well knowing that all flesh must Dye doth make this my last will & Testament in manner & form following -

Imp^{re} I give my Soule into the hand of God that Gave it (to) me and my body to the Earth to be Decently Buried at the Discretion of my executrix hereafter named no ways doubting but at the Resurrection my soule and Body shall be again united by the Mighty power of God where I shall secure full Remission & forgiveness of all my sins thru the Merits of my Dear & Blessed Savior & Redeemer Jesus Christ and (illegible word) all what goods both reall & personall which the Lord has been pleased to bless me with in this life, I give and bequeath as followeth -

Item I will & it is my will that all such debts which in Right of Conscience I owe unto any person & the probate of this my last will be Duely paid.

Item I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Margaret Vardaman all my Estate Reall & personall to be & remain unto her during her naturall Life with full power that if my son Johannes will come & live with his mother and be industrious to work & clear and pay for my land and plantation that then after my wife's Death he my said son Johannes have all the land & the plantation paying unto each of my children to wit Christopher & William Vardaman & Jane Margrita Vardaman Thirty pounds each within such Convenient time as he shall be able to pay it after each Child comes to age But in case my son Johannes will not come & live with his mother that then & in such case my Loving wife shall have the Liberty to choose who she pleases to live with her and not to be molested but to clear the land and pay unto the abov^d Johannes the Sume of thirty pounds & also thirty pounds apiece unto each of my said children as she is able & all my estate both reall & personall to be & remain unto her and her heirs forever But if my son Johannes will come & be Dutyfull & live with his mother & that he help to pay for the Land & pay the above l^d legacies to his Brother and to his sister that then & in such case that after my loving wifes death all my Estate Reale & personall shall be & remain unto him the said Johannes & his heirs forever -

Item I nominate & ordain my well beloved wife Margaret Vardaman my whole & sole executrix of this my last will & testament Disannulling & Disallowing all former wills heretofore by me made Ratifying & Confirming this to be my last will & testament & none other. In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seale the day & year first above written -

Signed Sealed published
& Declared By the Testator
this to be his last will &
Testament in presence of us)

(F)

March the 21st 1714-

Then came Capt. John Heally Charles Ford & John Danielly in their own proper persons before me Isaac Gooding one of his Majties Justices of the Peace for the County of New Castle on Delaware & Deposed on the Holy Evangelist as followeth. Viz: That upon the Seventeenth Day of this instant the within and above will was audibly read unto him the said John Vardaman then being in perfect memory & understanding did Declare plainly & heartily that the same was his Mind & Full desire & Going to sett up in his bed to signe the same a qualm came over his stomach & so lay down & remained Insensable untill he Dyed and farther Saith not. Swornes before me

Isaac Gooding

(seal) By the test(imony) of these presents I Rowland Fits Gerald, Dept^r Reg^r for the probate of wills Granting let(tres) of Adminastoren for the County of New Castle on Delaware by virtue of a commission from the Hon^{ble} Charles (?), l^d Governor of the Counties of New Castle, Kent

Will of John Vardaman 1714/15 (con't)

and Sussex on Delaware & Province of Pennsylvania Doe Make known unto all men that the fifth day of April in the yeare of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifteen at New Castle in the county of New Castle afore^{sd} before me the Dep^y Reg^r afore^{sd} was proved approved and In....ed the last Will and Testa^t of John Vardaman late of the ^{sd} county of New Castle dec^d to these presents annexed - having whilst he lived & at the time of his death Goods Rights and Creditts in diverse places within the same county by meanes whereof the full disposition of all and singular the Goods Rights & creditts of the ^{sd} dec^d and granting the administration thereof as above The Hearing of arr^t Cabrulation or (?) of the ^{sd} administⁿ and the final discharge & dismissal from the same unto me are manifestly knowne to belong and the administration of all & singular the Goods Rights and creditts of the ^{sd} dec^d and his last Will and Testament any manner or ways concerning was granted unto Margaret Vardaman executrix in the same Testament named chiefly of well & truly administering the same & making a true and Perfect Inventory of all and singular the Goods Rights and Creditts of the ^{sd} dec^d and exhibiting the same unto the Reg^r office at New Castle at or before the Tenth day of August next ... (illegible) Rendering a just & true acc^t calculation or reckoning ... (illegible) thereunto required ... (illegible) solemnly sworne in Testimony whereof I have caused the seale of the ^{sd} office to be affixed dated at New Castle the fifth day of April in the first yeare of the Reigne of King George of Great Brittain - Annog. Dom. 1715.

Rowl^d Fitz Gerald Depty Reg^r

It is unclear from the above document whether John Vardaman was able to sign the document before he "lay down & remained insensible" or whether it remained unsigned. The xerox copy merely has a mark of some sort - a circle with a crossed "T" in the center - but, unlike other documents of the period, it fails to read:

his
John F. Vardaman
mark

I suspect he died without signing.

1800

A CALENDAR
of DELAWARE WILLS
NEW CASTLE COUNTY
1682-1800

ABSTRACTED AND COMPILED
BY THE HISTORICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE
OF THE COLONIAL DAMES OF DELAWARE



A HERITAGE CLASSIC

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

18 CALENDAR OF DELAWARE WILLS [1712
Edward Jeffreys. Cordwainer. N. C. Dec. 5, 1712. Dec. 12, 1712.
B. 249. Wife, Jean. Exc. wife, Jean.
Humphrey Best. N. C. 1st day of 4th m., called June, 1710. Dec.
22, 1712. B. 179. Wife, Ellnor Best; sons, William and Hum-
phrey Best. Exc. wife.
John Houie. Yeoman. Drayer Crk. 11m. 16th, 1711-12. Dec. 27,
1712. B. 180. Coozin, John NaCoole; wife, Mary Houie. Exc.
wife, Mary.
Robert Hayes. Blk. bd. Crk. Hd. Oct. 9, 1713. C. 13. Wife, Han-
nah Hayes; dau., Isabella Hayes. Exc. Richard Cantwell.
Mathias Lossan. N. C. Nov. 27, 1712. Jan. 10, 1712-13. A. 251.
Son, Wholle; children, Ingebor, Wholle, Annikie, Sarah and
Mary; father-in-law, Lucas Stedham; brother, Wholle Lossan.
Exc. Wholle Lossan, Lucas Stedham.
Thomas Shaw. Duck Creek. Nov. 19, 1713. Feb. 12, 1713. C. 15.
Wife, Hannah Shaw; children. Exc. Hannah Shaw.
Robert Smith. Yeoman. Geo. Crk. Jan. 11, 1713. Mar. 15, 1713.
C. 17. Son, Thomas Smith; wife, Anne Smith; son, Richard
Smith; son, Robert Smith; son, William Smith. Exc. Anne
Smith (wife), Richard Empson, John Ashton.
Reynier Harmens Van Burkloe. Bombay Hook. Nov. 19, 1713. Mar.
19, —. C. 16. Wife, Mary Van Burkloe; eldest son, Peter;
other children, Mary, Margarette, Daniel, Susanna, William, Her-
man, Jacob, Samuel and Rebecca. Exc. wife, Mary; friend, Dan-
iel Pastories.
John Lewis. Sept. 17, 1708. April 10, 1713. B. 185. Wife and chil-
dren. Exc. Sarah Lewis, Thomas Reece (brother-in-law).
George Read. Yeoman. St. Geo. Hd. Mar. 22, 1712. May 4, 1713.
B. 182. Eldest son, George Read; son, Robert; dau., Elizabeth;
dau., Lidian Read. Exc. son, Robert Read. Guardians, James
Robinson, Richard Empson.
Abraham Cartwright. May 16, 1713. Aug. 15, 1713. C. 10. Father,
Thomas Cartwright, deceased, of Christian Creek. Age of Ab-
solam, 19 yrs., 11 mo. Brother-in-law, Cornelius Williams. Exc.
brother-in-law, Cornelius Williams.
Patrick Fitzgerald. Husbandman. July 10, 1714. —. C. 111. Row-
land Fitzgerald. Exc. Rowland Fitzgerald.
Isaac Sheffer. Yeoman. N. C. May 11, 1714. May 27, 1714. C. 19.
Wife, Cartwright Sheffer. Exc. wife, Cartwright Sheffer, Thomas
Boyer.
Rachel Colvert. Widow. N. C. July 15, 1714. July 27, 1714. C. 20.
Daus., Mary Inlow and Elizabeth Colvert; brother-in-law, Tobias
Tussey. Exc. Tobias Tussey, John Land.
John Cox. Dec. 3, 1713. Aug. 10, 1714. Misc. 1. 38. "Children;"
two daughters, Anna; "the youngest brother, Elias Cox;" son,

1716] NEW CASTLE COUNTY 19
Peter Cox; son, Charles Cox; John Cox, Jr., Magnus Cox, Au-
gustine Cox. Adm. by wife, Bridget.
Bartle Bartleson. Nov. 29, 1711. Nov. 4, 1714. C. 24-25. George
Wakford. Exc. George Wakford.
John Bolton. Farmer. St. Geo. Hd. Nov. 15, 1713. Dec. 2, 1714.
C. 22. Wife, Ann Bolton, Mary Sawier, dau. of Thomas Sawier
(dec'd.) and grandchild to Ann, my wife. Exc. Isaac Gooding of
Reedin Island, Floren Sorency.
John Garland. Merchant. N. C. Dec. 2, 1714. Dec. 11, 1714. C. 26.
Wife, Mary Garland; dau., Susannah Garland; brother, Anthony
Green; brother, Abraham Garland; sister, Sodd Anderson. Exc.
wife, Mary; father, Silvester Garland.
John Vardamon. Appo. Crk. Mar. 17, 1714. Apr. 5, 1715. Misc.
1.472. Wife, Margaret; son, Johannes; other children, Christo-
pher and William and Jane Margtia. Exc. Margaret Vardamon.
Isaac Gooding. Province of Penna. April 20, 1715. May 3, 1715.
Misc. 1.83. Son, John; sons, Isaac and Jacob Gooding; son,
Abraham; dau., Mary; wife, Judith; daus., Elizabeth Garbarock
and Susan Gooding. Exc. Judith Gooding, Jacob Gooding.
Job Brewster. N. C. Apr. 14, 1715. May 31, 1715. C. 30. Wife,
Elizabeth; three daus., Elizabeth, Sarah and Ann. Exc. father,
John Brewster, Cornelius Cooch, John Wood.
Richard Mankin. Weaver. Mar. 16, 1715. June 1, 1715. C. 27.
Uncle, James Robinson; brother, George Mankin; sister, Ann
James' eldest son, (viz.), Joseph James, Mary Chandler. Exc.
George Mankin, Thomas Chandler.
John Frogg. Merchant. Philadelphia. Aug. 17, 1706. Feb. 11, 1716.
C. 69. Wife, Mary Frogg. Exc. wife, Mary Frogg.
Roeloff Dehaes. Merchant. Widower. N. C. Jan. 4, 1716. Feb. 23,
1716. C. 74. Dau., Elizabeth De Haes, Catherine De Haes, Mary
De Haes, Joanna De Haes, Sarah dehaes. Exc. Richard Halli-
well, Col. John French, Rowland Fitzgerald.
Richard Cantwell. Gentleman. Appo. Hd. Oct. 17, 1715. Mar. 18,
1716. C. 77. Wife, Mary Cantwell; son, Richard; dau., Mary;
sister, Elizabeth Garretson's three children, Edmund Garretson,
Cantwell Garretson and Mary Garretson. Exc. wife, Mary Gar-
retson.
Thomas Turner (Tournier). Harlem, New York. July 25, 1709. Mar.
28, 1716. C. 85. Son, Daniel Turneur; wife, Mary Turneur;
other children, Jacob Turneur, Peter; Frederick Devow. Exc.
Mary Turneur (wife).
David Griffith. Farmer. (Nunc.) Apr. 24, 1716. Apr. 27, 1716.
C. 46. Eldest son, Griffith Griffith, "upon arrival in this coun-
try;" eldest dau., Jane Lewis, wife of William Lewis; dau., Mary
Watkin, wife of Peter Watkin; second son, John Griffith. Exc.
John Griffith.

20-C The Atlanta Journal and CONSTITUTION SUNDAY, JAN. 25, 1976

KNOW YOUR NAME

By JOHN C. DOWNING

Interested in the derivation and history of your name? Send it to: Names, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, P.O. Box 4689, Atlanta, Ga. 30302.

Warrick, Warwick

These two names are so similar and so easily confused, they will be treated together...

The name Warrick is from the Middle English "warrock," a wooden wedge used to tighten the rope bindings of scaffolds. A maker of this item could easily have been identified by the use of his occupational as were Walter Warrock and Roger Warrock who lived in Staffordshire and Essex between 1221-1285.

Warwick is an English place name acquired from once having lived in either Warwick in Warwickshire or Warwick in Cumberland. The early spellings of the Warwickshire place are so varied that two possible meanings could apply. It is either "abode, village of Waer's people" or "Abode, village at a wier." The Cumberland place was spelled Warthwic in 1132, Warhtewic in 1140, and Warthwick in 1258. The meaning is "abode, village on the bank (of a stream)."

In England, Turcell de (of) Warwic, listed in the 1086 Domesday Book, was sheriff of Warwickshire, John de Warrewyc of Yorkshire,

Matilda de Warewyck, and John de Warewyk of Oxfordshire were living in 1273. Richard Warwick and Hester Trexton were married in St. Mary Aldermay's Church, London 1601.

In Scotland, Ricardus de Warewic witnessed a charter in 1196. Richard de Warwyk del counte de Ayr (the Count of Ayr) rendered homage to the English crown in 1296.

Burke's General Armory describes the Warwick arms.

Henry Warwick or Warrick was noted in Maine in 1636.

In Virginia, a Thomas Warwick and a Thomas Warrwick (the same man?), were noted as living on the Rappahannock River in 1656-58.

Postell

The Greek word apostolos (one sent forth) became apostle in Old French and apostol and postol in Old English. The Old French term apostole was the original word for pope. In Halliwell's "Armonya of Brides," we find:

"Like a postle I am
For I preche to man."

Its use as a surname could have come about by acting the role of an apostle in one of the many pageant plays or

Warrick, Warwick

Postell

Vardman

Sentell

Tinn

Cumby

it could have been a nickname given a person who had some great or fancied mannerism to an apostle — perhaps ironical.

In England, Richard Postel, William La Postle and Ralph Postle lived in the period 1170-1332. William Younge and Elizabeth Postle were issued a marriage license, London, 1560.

Some other English spellings were Postles, Posthill, Postill and Possell.

Burke's General Armory describes the Possall and Posthall arms.

William Possell was noted in Henrico County, Virginia, in 1636.

Benjamin, James and John Postell of South Carolina were officers in the American Revolutionary Army.

Vardman

This is a Germanic occupational name derived from the Old High German word wart (to guard, to protect) plus the suffix -mann (a worker). This has formed the surnames Wartmann, Warteman, Wartner and Werdelman, plus the dialectical Yartman(n).

In this instance, the occupational title was added to the man's single given name when more exact identification was needed. If the children of Vardman assumed his occupational title, then the name

would be a hereditary surname. Researched by Erich Eppstein.

Sentell

One origin of this name could be from the Old Norse word sannr (war, strife, combat) which formed the Germanic surnames Sandrat, Sander, Sandig, Santel and Sendel. Sentell may be a variant of one of the foregoing.

The other origin can be a French place name acquired from once having lived at places spelled Centellium and Centello in the 11th and 12th centuries and Sanctillum in the 14th century. Each appears to have been named for an early Roman owner probably called Sentillius or Centillius. German research by Erich Eppstein.

Tinn

This name may be of Germanic origin derived from the names Tinnes or Thinnas which are pet forms of names such as Antonius and Martinus. Tony was another pet form of Antonius and Mart and Marty of Martinus. It could also be a variant form of the German place name Thein, German research by Erich Eppstein.

There is also a Scottish name Thin(n), meaning "tall, slim" which could have become Tinn through colloquial spelling.

Readers RESPOND to

1133

FAMILY PUZZLERS

1990 Mary Bondurant Warren. ISSN 0014-7389. Published weekly by Heritage Papers. Subscription \$31.80 tax included for GA residents; \$30.00 for others. POSTMASTER: send changes of address to Heritage Papers, Danielsville, GA 30633.

JULY 7, 1990, NUMBER 1133

NATIONAL ARCHIVES HOLDINGS LIST

Is. Gerry Hill, 3311 Westgate Dr., Albany, GA 31707 wants to know where Mrs. Boone (PUZZLER 1122) got a list of the Bibles in the National Archives. Is there a list of other holdings available?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mrs. Boone, will you answer this? They are not known "generically" in either of two *GUIDES TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES* which I have.

LYMAN DRAPER PAPERS: WHAT ARE THEY?

Mrs. Mattie Roberts Somerville, 1938 Hwy. 546, West Monroe, LA 70092 has asked for information on the LYMAN C. DRAPER MANUSCRIPTS. During what years was this collection made? What states/counties are involved? What were the sources for the information - personal interviews, letters, etc.? Is there a master index?

Is there an index by family name? How many reels of microfilm are involved? Are they available for rental? If so, from whom? If not available for rental, what is the nearest source? Have the papers been published as a whole?

EDITOR'S NOTE: The late Willard Heiss wrote an interesting overview of the Draper Papers in *GENEALOGY*, #90, a publication of the Family History Section, IN Historical Society, in 1985.

Here is a synopsis, which should answer most of your questions.

Lyman Draper was born in New York state in 1815, and attended college in OH. In 1843, funded by his brother-in-law, Draper began to travel and do historical research. He filled several hundred

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FAMILY PUZZLES

notebooks with personal interviews, copies of records, newspaper articles, and on his trips acquired many original manuscripts.

These included personal papers of DANIEL BOONE, DANIEL BRODHEAD, GEORGE ROGERS CLARK and his brothers, the MARTIN family of TN, and WILLIAM PRESTON.

During this period Draper corresponded with hundreds, appealing for manuscripts, recollections, and other data. When his brother-in-law died suddenly in 1854, Draper moved to Wisconsin, where he became the Corresponding Secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, which now has his papers.

Of this massive collection only *KING'S MOUNTAIN AND ITS HEROES* was published. Draper died in 1891, and his papers remain with the WI State Historical Society, where they have been microfilmed. Chadwyck-Healey, Inc., 623 Martense Ave., Teaneck, NY 07666 sells copies of the collection -- 123 reel, 11 calendars of papers, documentaries, and bibliography. [\$6,500 in 1985]

A GUIDE TO THE DRAPER MANUSCRIPTS was completed by Josephine L. Harper, and published; it is available at many libraries, some of whom have copies of the microfilms as well.

Heiss warns, "Found in the appendixes [of the GUIDE] but not in the descriptive text, are names of Draper's correspondents and interviewees, Revolutionary War pension applicants, authors of clipped newspaper and periodical articles, and subjects of obituary notices. A separate appendix also individually describes the hundreds of maps found in the collection."

The films may also be available for use at LDS Branch Libraries; ask them!

CHESSER

Ms. Rachel C. Reid, 3003 Twigg St., Palatka, FL 32177 recently received a cookbook that belonged to her ggm MARGARET LOU MOTES CHESSER. In the middle of the book were blank pages for Household Memoranda on which Mrs. Chesser had recorded her family information!

NANCY and LeROY CHESSER came to Alachua Co., FL, from Liberty Co., GA, prior to 1860. "I had searched for at least 10 years for their death dates, but could not find any information after 1885." Margaret was dau. of JOHN MOTES and Rachel ?, and m. JAMES M. CHESSER. They were buried in the Hollister Baptist Church Cemetery, in Hollister, Putnam Co., FL.

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

November 7, 1993

Sheila Williamson
1931 N. Fife St.
Tacoma, WA 98406-7511

Dear Sheila,

FINALLY!! It is with a great deal of trepidation that I sit down to write this letter. The problem is: Your husband descends from the John Vardaman/Elizabeth Morgan branch of the family. This creates a twofold problem: First, while I have a great deal of information on this branch of the family it is very unorganized - scattered throughout several different voluminous folders. Second, it is this branch of the family that has stirred so much controversy among our family historians.

The controversy stems from the information included in various biographies of the life of the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman, the youngest and probably most noted of John and Elizabeth's children. Because of what I consider to be several items of misinformation stemming from these biographies, logical debate of the issues is not always possible.

However, before getting into the issues which I cannot help from addressing lets talk about the enclosures with this letter. As I mentioned to you on the phone, I have put together a packet of items dealing with our family history and the origin of the Vardaman name which I have been sending to correspondents. This material is in one packet with a wire clip and consists of the following:

- (1) My treatise on the origin of the name Vardaman - German, Swedish or Dutch.
- (2) The biography of author Parthenia Antoinette Vardaman Hague together with my notes on this biography.
- (3) The biography of my great-great-grandfather, Edwy Liles Vardaman together with my notes on same.
- (4) The biography of my great-grandfather, John Forsythe Vardaman, son of Edwy Liles Vardaman, together with my notes on same.
- (5) My notes on the Draper Manuscript biography of Jeremiah Vardaman of Kentucky, the noted Baptist preacher.
- (6) A brief article concerning the Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman for those who are not previously acquainted with him.
- (7) A brief explanation of the Draper Manuscripts from Family Puzzlers, a Georgia genealogical magazine.

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

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(8) A clipping from an old issue of the Atlanta Journal newspaper purporting to explain the origin of the Vardaman name.

(9) Two letters from Mrs. Dorothy Deck of Kentucky to Mrs. Dorothy Tierney of Louisiana which contain information bearing on the Vardaman name origin. Mrs. Deck is descended from the Rane McKinney/Sabra Vardaman union and is therefore a descendent of John and Elizabeth Morgan Vardaman. Mrs. Tierney is a descendent of John's brother, William, Jr.

(10) A letter from genealogist Edward P. Moore of the University of Mississippi to Guy Vining of Hurtsboro, AL, which also contains information on the name origin.

In addition to the packet outlined above there are several additional enclosures:

(11) Two items entitled Some History Regarding the Vardaman Family and Some Vardaman Family History, together with an addendum to my notes on the biographies of Edwy Liles Vardaman and John Forsythe Vardaman. These two items were written to other correspondents in the past but since they contain substantial family history I find it easier to just copy them than to try to write the appropriate material over again. While they are directed at my line of descent, there is sufficient general Vardaman family history included to make them interesting to any Vardaman researcher.

The addendum to my previous analyses of the two cited biographies is an attempt to bring them into line with the latest information that has come to my attention.

(12) Vardaman Family Name History obtained from The Historical Research Center and The Heraldry Shop. I just got this last month. Although in most cases I view these commercial name histories with a great deal of suspicion, I cannot help but feel that this one could possibly be correct. I am impressed with the fact that it acknowledges that no family coat of arms has been identified. Usually that is the entire purpose of such name research and the item on which the commercial entity stands to make its money.

As I continue with my research and despite the position outlined in my essay on this subject, I am on the verge of returning to my original opinion that the Vardaman name is of German origin rather than Swedish.

As you already know, William Vardaman married Magdalena Peterson in Delaware in 1720. Without doubt Peterson is a Swedish name (her father was Peter Peterson and we know that she had a brother, Hans) and Magdalena could very well have been born in Sweden, immigrating to the New World with her parents. I wonder if this is where the Swedish origin theory may have originated. Could it be that somehow Magdalena's origins became confused with William's and

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he became the one to be identified as Swedish? Combined with the other information that we have on the source of Jeremiah Vardaman's biographies, I find this very a very plausible explanation.

(13) An excerpt from The History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia by Maud Carter Clement which relates certain court testimony concerning an Indian raid in which William Vardaman, his son, William, Jr., and others, were involved.

This is identical to the tale from "The New River Early Settlement" written in 1983 by Patricia Givens Johnson that you have related in your notes. Please note that Ms. Clement's book was first published in 1927. In 1758, the lands of western Virginia presently constituting Pulaski, Russell, Wythe and other southwestern Virginia Counties, and including the New River area, were part of either Halifax County (to the east) or Augusta County (to the north). At that time this area was unsettled wilderness, inhabited by Indians, and the western boundaries of these frontier counties were pretty much undefined. Pittsylvania County was formed from the western part of Halifax County in 1762 and, later, in 1770, all the land in what is now southwestern Virginia was cut off from Augusta County to the north and became Botetort County.

I have gone into the above in some detail because I believe that the details of the article in Ms. Clement's book establish that the location of this episode was in the area of Halifax/Bedford Counties when it occurred and not in the New River area much further to the south and west. This, of course, agrees with the location of the Vardaman lands in what is now Bedford County. What is your reaction to all this?

Well - the above pretty well takes care of the enclosures. Now to the data included in your notes. You should read the various items in the enclosures before becoming too agitated over what I am about to write.

First let me say that I was very glad to get the information that you sent me. It adds to my collection of data on the John Vardaman/Elizabeth Morgan family and I do not contest most of it. However, the big problem seems to be with the children of John and Elizabeth.

Your list of children does not agree with lists that I have obtained from the correspondence of several other Vardaman researchers.

But first, my biggest problem comes from the so-called "list of children as included in Spencer's History of Kentucky Baptists". Would that it were so! I have a copy of the Jeremiah Vardaman biography included in that History, as well as the history of the Crab Orchard Church, also from Spencer's History, which includes Vardaman family references. In neither instance are the names of

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John and Elizabeth's children listed. The only specifics are that Jeremiah was the youngest of 12 children and that he had brothers Amaziah and Morgan. I suggest that these two brothers were mentioned because they were also somewhat active in the Church. It is a mystery to me as to just where the names of the 12 children of John and Elizabeth have been derived.

I also have copies of additional Jeremiah Vardaman biographies written much earlier than the Spencer History by a Rev. Peck. They, also, do not mention the names of the 12 children.

These biographies are also the source of the information concerning the Vardamans being from Sweden; landing in this country in South Carolina; and proceeding from there to Virginia --- none of which I believe. Although, I will concede the slight possibility that they were from Sweden.

Nevertheless, I have several lists of these children.

Mrs. Audrey Hudson of Vidor, TX, a descendent of John and Elizabeth through their son William who migrated to Louisiana and later Mississippi, writes in 1961 that the children of John and Elizabeth were:

- (1) Mary Madalene (b. 1744) md. Simon Cockrill
- (2) Letitia md. a McGathy
- (3) Morgan (b. 12/16.1766) md. Mary Trousdale
- (4) Jemima md Wm. Pope in Lincoln Co., KY, July 3, 1785
- (5) John md. Mary Spalding in Lincoln Co., KY, July 7, 1785
- (6) Peter
- (7) Thomas md. Mary Wilcox
- (8) William md. Ann ? [Note by JHV: This is Ann Ayres]
- (9) Jeremiah (b. 1775) md. 3 times
- (10) Alexander
- (11) Amaziah md. Nancy Wright

Mrs. Kiffin Gilbert of Richmond, IN, a descendent of John and Elizabeth through their son ?. Her earliest known ancestor was a William Vardaman born in 1790 in Lincoln Co, KY, who married Mary (Polly) Reed and migrated to Indiana. This William is thought to be he son of John Vardaman who married Elizabeth Franklyn and a grandson of John and Elizabeth (Morgan) Vardaman. She writes in 1966 that the children were:

- (1) Mary Magdalene md. Simon Cockrill in 1765
- (2) Amaziah md. Nancy Wright March 7, 1791
- (3) Morgan md. Mary Trousdale Jan. 27, 1792
- (4) Letitia lived in Virginia
- (5) Peter md. Prudence and left a will in Shelby Co., KY, in 1818(?)
- (6) Thomas (b. 1765)
- (7) a child died in infancy

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Mrs. Frances Remund of Salt Lake City, Utah, a descendent of James Vardaman through his son Thomas, writes in 1966 that the children were:

- (1) John (b. 1753) md. Mary Spaulding Sept. 7, 1785
- (2) Mary Matilda(?) (b. 1754) md. Simon Cockrill
- (3) Letitia (b. 1757) md. McGatha
- (4) Amaziah md. Nancy Wright
- (5) William
- (6) Child died young
- (7) Peter
- (8) Morgan (b. 12/16/1767) md. Mary Trousdale
- (9) Alexander md. Rachel Manteel
- (10) Jemima md William Pope in 1785
- (11) Thomas md. Rachel (Polly) Wilcox
- (12) Jeremiah (b. 1775)

Mrs. Dorothy Tierney of Natchitoches, LA, a descendent of William (brother of John who married Elizabeth Morgan) writes that the children were:

- (1) Mary Magdalene (b. 1744 - d. 1839) md. Simon Cockrill
- (2) Letitia md. a McGatha and lived in Virginia
- (3) Morgan md Mary Trousdale
- (4) John md. Mary Spaulding in 1785
- (5) Amaziah md. Nancy Wright in 1781
- (6) Peter
- (7) Thomas md. Rachel Wilcox
- (8) William
- (9) Alexander
- (10) Jemima md. Wm. Pope
- (11) infant
- (12) Jeremiah (b. 1775)

Mrs. Betty Tolbert of Hazlehurst, MS, a descendent of John and Elizabeth's son William who migrated to Louisiana and later Mississippi, writes in 1966 that the children were:

- (1) Mary Madeline
- (2) Letitia
- (3) Morgan
- (4) Jemima
- (5) John, Jr.
- (6) Amaziah
- (7) Peter
- (8) Thomas
- (9) William
- (10) Alexander
- (11) Jeremiah
- (12) child died young

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As you can see, while there are many similarities there are also many differences and some contradictions. You had come up with 8 children.

First, I would agree that Jemimah, Morgan, William, Amaziah, Thomas and Jeremiah were their children. Another son was John. You have listed a John Morgan. I'm certain that these were two different sons.

Second, Sabra and Tabitha Vardaman were two daughters of John Vardaman and Elizabeth Franklyn (Franklin). They are not the same person. Tabitha Vardaman married Rane McKinney, April 17, 1787, in Mercer Co., KY. Her sister, Sabra, married the same Rane McKinney, Jan. 13, 1797, in Lincoln Co., KY. Apparently Tabitha died between 1787 and 1797.

Third, yours is the first mention of a possible daughter named Minnie that I have seen. This is very intriguing. Based on her marriage date as you have it, she must be a daughter of John and Elizabeth Morgan Vardaman.

Now let's talk about some of the other children:

I believe, as do many other researchers, that the Peter listed as a child of John and Elizabeth was actually John's brother Peter. It was his brother Peter who married Prudence in Virginia. According to Mrs. Remund, they had a daughter named Naomi born in 1771. And it is the brother Peter who left the will in Shelby Co., KY. This will was dated July 23, 1808 and probated in 1809 (not 1818 as Mrs. Gilbert had it). This then removes Peter from the list of 12 children and we need a replacement to complete the 12.

We know positively that John and Elizabeth had a daughter named Elizabeth who married William Menafee in 1774 in Fincastle Co., VA. There is no doubt that she is the daughter of John and Elizabeth although none of the lists that I have seen and outlined above have included her. With the elimination of Peter as a child of John and Elizabeth and the inclusion of Elizabeth, we are now back to the 12 children of family lore. However, this does not take into consideration that Minnie may have been yet another child of John and Elizabeth.

The John Vardaman (some refer to him as John III) who married Mary Spaulding in KY in 1785 could possibly be a grandson of John and Elizabeth. While they had a son named John (John, Jr.), he married Elizabeth Franklyn, daughter of John Franklyn and Sarah Smith ca 1769. They had 4 children: sons William and John and daughters Tabitha and Sabra. This John's birth year is given variously as 1744, 1745 and 1753. In order to have married ca 1769, we can rule out 1753 leaving us with 1744 or 1745 as the potential birth year. It is hard to see how this John's son, John,

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could be the John who married Mary Spaulding in 1785 as he probably would not have been over 16 in 1785 if the 1769 marriage date for his parents is correct.

Someone has already wondered about the spacing of the 12 children of John and Elizabeth Morgan Vardaman over an approximate 30 year period 1745-75. It does sound somewhat illogical. However, it appears that their oldest child was probably daughter Mary Magdalene, b. ca 1744, followed by son John, b. ca 1745.

Morgan Vardaman was born in 1766 according to a Bible record quoted by Mrs. Remund. Thomas is said to have been born ca 1765 and you indicate that Jemima was also born about that same time. I would guess, based on supposed marriage dates, that Elizabeth and Amaziah were born ca 1750 or a little later. Letitia may have been born even earlier. Although I have a goodly amount of data on the descendants of William Vardaman, son of John and Elizabeth, I have no information regarding his birth year. I would guess that it was some time in the 1750s. Also, I have absolutely no information on their son Alexander. Jeremiah was, of course, the last born in 1775.

I wonder if the John Vardaman who married Mary Spaulding in 1785 could have been the same John Vardaman who married Elizabeth Franklyn ca 1769? This would appear to be the only logical explanation. There seems to be no doubt that the John who married Elizabeth Franklyn is a son of John and Elizabeth Morgan Vardaman. On the other hand, several listings of their children include a son John who was married to Mary Spaulding.

If you have the tax (tithe) information from Lunenburg County, VA, you will have noted that William Vardeman paid 3 tithes in 1748 for himself and 2 sons, John and William, Jr. Note that sons Peter and James are not mentioned. Since tithes were required only for males 16 years of age and older, we can interpolate that John and William, Jr., were both born not later than 1832 and probably earlier.

Again in 1749, William Verdeman (Vardaman) paid three tithes for himself and sons John and William, Jr. In 1750, William Verdsman (Vardaman) once again paid 3 tithes for himself and his sons John and William, Jr. Please note that no tithes are paid for sons Peter and James in these two years indicating that neither had reached the age of 16. James may not have even been born yet.

For 1751 not all tithe lists were located and those for John Phelps' district (where the Vardamans were located) are among the missing.

In 1752 William Verdeman (Vardaman) paid two tithes for himself and son Robert. William Verdeman (Vardaman), Jr., paid his own tithe. It is my opinion that the name "Robert" is an abstracting error and

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should actually be Peter. This would mean that Peter became 16 in the period late 1750 to 1752 which would indicate that he was born 1734-36. Note that son John is not included in the tax records unless his name has been so mangled that we cannot recognize it. Since our information indicates that he was still in this area at this time, this is somewhat surprising.

I have noted a John Hardman who paid one tithe in 1752 in William Caldwell's district. This is the only time that such a person appears in the Lunenburg County tax records for the years 1748, 1749, 1750, 1751 and 1752. The 3 Vardamans were included in John Phelps district. Caldwell's district was a very small district bordering Phelps' much larger district on the east. The border between the two districts was the Falling River. The southern border of both districts was the Roanoke (Stanton or Staunton) River. I feel that there is a good possibility that this is another abstracting error and that this John Hardman may very well be John Vardaman. Or it could be that John's name was just inadvertently omitted from the list altogether by the abstractor.

Since Bedford County, where the Vardaman's lived, was created from a portion of Lunenburg Co. in 1754, they would not appear on the Lunenburg County tax lists after this time.

Well, I believe that I have rambled on long enough for one time. I have a lot more information on later generations in the John Vardaman/Elizabeth Morgan line which I have not included here - nor have I analyzed it.

I will be very interested in learning what you think of all the points that I have brought up and will anticipate hearing from you again in the not too distant future. Believe me, I love to debate the various issues involved and to have new points of view provided for my consideration.

Sincerely,

J. H. Vardaman
361 Wrights Mill Ct.
Alpharetta, GA 30201
Telephone: 404-887-4803

LETTER OF MRS. KATHRYNE G. WATKINS
of HAMMOND, LA.

COMMENTARY BY J. H. VARDAMAN

July 1, 1995

Attached is a copy of a letter dated Sept. 4, 1966, from Mrs. Kathryn B. Watkins of Hammond, LA, to Mr. Guy Vining of Hurtsboro, AL.

Mrs. Watkins was a descendant of a Rhoda Vardaman who married a John Gustavus, probably in St. Tammany Parrish, LA, ca 1803. Rhoda was reported to be only 13 years old at the time of her marriage (born ca 1790).-- She was the daughter of a William Vardeman and Ann Ayers. This William Vardeman [*identified by me as William⁴*] was a son of John² Vardaman and Elizabeth Morgan and a grandson of William¹ Vardaman and his first wife, Magdalena Peterson.

Mr. Vining was a small town druggist and dedicated Vining family researcher who, over a period of years, amassed a large volume of Vardaman family history. This was a result of 3 Vardaman brothers, sons of James Vardaman of Newberry Co., SC, marrying 3 Vining sisters in Jefferson Co., GA, ca 1801-03. A large portion of his records consisted of letters to him from different correspondents concerning various branches of the Vardaman family.

He maintained his records in old-time merchant's ledgers into which he copied letters, deeds, wills, census records, etc. As a result, the copy of the letter from Mrs. Watkins (attached) is in his handwriting, as he copied it into his record ledger.

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1. The John Vardaman (Vardaman) referred to in the first paragraph of Mrs. Watkins' letter is John² Vardaman, son of William¹ Vardaman and grandson of John¹ Vardaman who left a will in New Castle Co., DL, in 1714. John² married Elizabeth Morgan ca 1744 in a portion of Brunswick Co., VA, which later (1746) became Lunenburg Co. and even later (1754), Bedford Co. ca 1744.

2. While we have no real clue as to John²'s birth year, he is assumed to have been born ca 1721-24 and could very well have been 105 years old when he died. In view of the many reports of his age at death which vary from 103 to 125, I believe it highly likely that he did, indeed, live to be over 100 years of age. The age of 105, as stated by Mrs. Watkins, would place his death ca 1827 which would agree with other reports of the time of his death.

3. The Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman, youngest son of John² and Elizabeth Morgan Vardaman, was a noted Baptist preacher who was called the father of Kentucky Baptists. However, the story that he started a Baptist college in Missouri is not true. This story refers to William Jewell College in Liberty, MO, which was founded in 1849, some 7 years after the Rev. Jeremiah's death in 1842. In honor of Rev. Jeremiah's labors for the Baptists, the School of Theology at William Jewell College was named for him. I believe that one of Jeremiah's sons, William H. Vardaman, also an ordained Baptist minister, at one time taught or was an official at William Jewell College.

4. William⁴ Vardaman, son of John², together with his father and brothers were among the very first settlers to inhabit the area that is now the State of Kentucky. In fact, William⁴, is reported to be the very first of the John² Vardaman family to move into Kentucky.

Later, ca 1790, or possibly prior to that date, William⁴ Vardaman removed from Kentucky to the Natchez Territory and obtained a Spanish land grant for certain lands in what is now southwestern Mississippi. It appears that he probably resided in St. Tammany Parish across the border in Louisiana.

At that time sovereignty over this area was being contested between Spain and the U.S. France had originally claimed this area but ceded it to Spain in 1768 with Great Britain nominally receiving that portion east of the Mississippi River in 1769. In 1783 Great Britain ceded this area back to Spain. The boundary between the U.S. and Spanish Florida was disputed during this period until established as the 31st Parallel in 1795.

5. Mrs. Watkins is in error regarding the passport to Georgia for William Vardaman. This passport was not issued to her ancestor, William⁴ (wife Ann Ayres), but, instead, to William³ (wife Rachel Walker), son of William² Vardaman who died in Wilkes Co., GA. William³ Vardaman, although actually a Georgia citizen, had established residence ca 1800 in Washington

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Co., Mississippi Territory, in order to engage in certain land transactions. This was much to the east of the area in which William⁴ had settled. Washington Co. is now located in southwestern Alabama.

6. While Mrs. Watkins doesn't furnish a list of the children of William⁴ Vardaman and Ann Ayers, she does mention some of them: A son, William Ayers, a daughter who married a Smith and two daughters who married Spells. In addition there is her own ancestress, Rhoda Vardaman who married John Gustavus.

Other information that I have indicates the following children for William⁴ and Ann (Ayers) Vardaman:

(a) Jeremiah K. Vardaman, born in 1787 in KY. Died April 26, 1849 in Harrison Co., MS. Married Sarah Smith, daughter of Gideon and Sarah Smith, Nov. 22, 1811, St. Tammany Parish, LA.

(b) Elijah Vardaman, born 1796 in MS(?). Died June 8, 1859 in MS, age 63 years and 7 days. Married Margaret Holliday who was born in 1809.

(c) John Vardaman.

(d) William Ayers Vardaman married Unis (*Eunice*) Carter in 1815.

(e) Mary (Polly) Vardaman, born March 6, 1797, in LA. Died Nov. 1864 in Scottsdale, Mississippi. Married (1) John Smith, son of Gideon and Sarah Smith, Nov. 1811, in St. Tammany Parish, LA. They had one child, a son named Vardaman Smith, born Dec. 1, 1813, who died in early manhood. Mary (Polly) Vardaman Smith married (2) Capt. William Pinckney Rose in 1816. He was born April 12, 1787, in NC and died Jan. 22, 1850, in MS. Mary and Capt. Rose had 9 children, six of whom survived to maturity.

(f) Amaziah Vardaman.

(g) Jemima Vardaman, born Dec. 12, 1796 - died Aug. 14, 1842. Married Aaron J. Spell in Washington Parish, LA(?).

(h) Rhoda Vardaman, born ca 1790. Married John Gustavus in 1803 when she was only 13 years old. John was the son of Micajah Gustavus, a Revolutionary War veteran.

(i) Anne Vardaman married Saunders Spell in Louisiana in 1816.

(j) Sally Vardaman married Thomas Spell in Louisiana.

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The information for Jemima was furnished by Mrs. Edna S. Bates of Pascagoula, MS. This information from Mrs. Bates agrees in general with the information in Mrs. Watkins' letter and with other information that I have (two other daughters marrying Spells). However, there is a problem with certain of the birth dates cited above:

It would be highly improbable for both Elijah and Jemima to have been born in 1796 -- unless they were twins. In addition, even if this were the case, it would then be impossible for Mary (Polly) to have been born in March, 1797. Mary (Polly) Vardeman's birth date is reported to be as recorded in an old family Bible. In this case, assuming that Mary's birth date is correct, Jemima could not have been born in Dec. 1796, although Elijah could have been born in early 1796. However, since the reported place of birth for Elijah (Mississippi) is highly unlikely (he was most likely born in Louisiana), the birth date (year) is also suspect.

The daughter who married a Smith, as set forth in Mrs. Watkins' letter was Mary (Polly) Vardeman. Polly and her brother, Jeremiah, married siblings, a son and daughter of Gideon and Sarah Smith.

My information did not include the fact that the three Spell men were brothers; however, both Mrs. Bates' and Mrs. Watkins' information support this. Mrs. Bates had indicated that the two brothers of Aaron to marry sisters of Jemima may have been named Thomas and John. Although the Thomas agrees with my previous information, the other brother to marry a Vardaman appears to be a Saunders Spell. Could his name have been John Saunders Spell?

7. It has been conjectured that the Amaziah listed above as a son of William⁴ and Ann (Ayers) Vardeman was in fact William's brother from Kentucky and not his son and that Elijah was Amaziah's son. I do not believe this. Both Amaziah and Elijah fought with General Jackson's troops against the British in the Battle of New Orleans, Jan 8, 1815 (War of 1812). They were Privates in the 12th and 13th Consolidated Regiment of the Louisiana Militia. I believe that this argues that they were brothers, not father and son.

In addition, Amaziah is listed in the 1816 Mississippi Territorial Census in Pike Co. with only 2 individuals in the family, one male and one female - both over 21. The Amaziah of Kentucky (William⁴'s brother) married Nancy Wright ca Mar. 7, 1791, in Lincoln Co., KY. Also, the Amaziah in Kentucky was old enough in 1785 to provide a bond for the marriage of his brother John to Mary Spalding which would indicate that he was born no later than 1764. If the Amaziah in Mississippi was William⁴'s brother from Kentucky, he would have been at least 50 years old by 1815, and would have almost surely had children in his household in 1816.

8. Mrs. Watkins is mistaken regarding William Ayers Vardaman being the grandfather of James Kimball Vardaman. James K. Vardaman's grandparents were Jeremiah K. and Sarah (Smith) Vardaman. Jeremiah was a brother of William Ayers Vardaman.

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James K. Vardaman was a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives (1890-96), Governor of Mississippi (1904-08) and U.S Senator from Mississippi (1913-1919). A biography of his life can be found in the book The White Chief- James Kimball Vardaman by William F. Holmes, 418 pages, published by the Louisiana State University Press, 1970.

THE END

VARDAMAN

June 1-127

EMAN

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Copy of letter from
Nathuryn S. Watkins
Hammond

Pa 70401
Sept 4, 1964

Dear Mr. Vining

John Vardeman was a Rev. soldier, He lived to be 105 and is buried in Missouri. There is information regarding him in Collins History of Ky. He married a Morgan from Bedford Co. Va. 2 sons I can remember are William and Jeremiah -

The last was an outstanding Baptist Preacher.

He is supposed to have started a Baptist College in Missouri. William came to Mississippi Amite Co. to get a land grant and was there before 1800 - He got a passport to go to Georgia, so I considering if there is not an error in the established

N.A.R. line - I believe he is possibly the William listed in Wills of William in Wilkes Co Ga. His wife was Ann I think Ayres,

as she named a son by that name and other Ayers and Hollidays moved as they moved in each community - In 1806 they all got land grants in Ga and apparently William and Ann died and are buried in Washington Parish - They had a son William Ayers Vardeman and several daughters who married a Smith and 2 daughters who married Spells. - Court Records were burned in that Parish - Ann and William died between 1820 and 1830, They were on that census in 1830. My Rhoda Vardeman and John Gustavus had moved back to Miss.

They were married 1803 - She was 13 John is son of Micajah Gustavus Rev. Soldier - But we have no proof. Many of the Vardemans went to Texas - daughter who married a Smith died and it is her Bible Record that gave names of William and Ann but no dates or places. Son William went to Texas and returned - It was his son or grandson,

== SEE Page 102 for balance of letter ==

VARDAMAN

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Contd letter
from Mrs Katharine G. Watkins
Hammond La

James K. Vardaman who was Governor and Senator
of Mississippi - But he got into some sort
of disgrace so there are no records on
him in the archives in Miss -

Sincerely
Mrs Katharine G. Watkins

February 11, 1967

Dear Mrs. Tierney:

I'm so pleased to have your letter and am sorry for the delay in answering, but I spent most of Dec. and Jan. in Atlanta with my brother and things were rather piled up around here when I got home.

I'm sorry that I can't give you the parents of your Sarah Elizabeth. She intrigues me - with that name she should connect up closely with my branch of the family, but I have been hunting Vardamans for years and years - and have no proof on any of them. It is a strange family. I write to several who are also hunting and we just can't seem to find the correct records. I've almost given up several times but now I do feel a few more records and I will be able to connect some of them and have some of the correct answers. If you have any records at all on the family - no matter how unimportant - besides that given in Spencer's History of Kentucky Baptists, I will certainly appreciate your sending it to me. Did your Sarah Elizabeth have other brothers and sisters besides Wiley? What were their names and where were they born? Where did the family live in Georgia? Did they later move from there and where?

My gt - gt - gt. grandmother was Sabra Vardaman who married Rane McKinney in Lincoln County, Kentucky in Jan. 1797. She had an older sister Tabitha who had married the

same Kane McKinney in Mercer Co. Ky. in April 1787. The one and only record that I can find on the parents is their consent for Tabitha's marriage. They signed as John and Elizabeth Vardaman. I have been told that they were not John and wife Elizabeth Morgan (parents of Rev. Jeremiah) although Ammesiah and Morgan Vardeman who are thought to be brothers of Rev. Jeremiah were witnesses to the signatures of my John and Elizabeth. One genealogist told me (but could give no proof) that my John was born ca. 1745 in present day Henry Co. Va.; married Elizabeth Franklyn, daughter of John Franklyn and Sarah Smith ca. 1769 and had sons John and William and daughters Tabitha and Sabra. I can't find one bit of proof for any of this or anyone who seems to know who first gave this information. I've searched every where for Vardaman records - but I certainly need more. Some must have left wills, but I can't find them - not one in Virginia only one in South Carolina and two in Kentucky - no others.

These are the most important of the early records that I have:

Vol. 23 of Draper Manuscripts written in 1886 states that the original Vardeman came from Sweden about 260 years before (this would be about 1626).

John Vardaman of Apogueniny Creek in County of New Castle upon Delaware left a will dated

17 March 1714/15 naming wife Margaret and
Son - Johannes (of age and not living with parents)
Son - Christopher } under age
Son - William
Daughter - Jane Margrita }

William Verdeman and Magdalene Petersen were married 21 April 1720 in Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, Wilmington, Delaware.

William Verdeman of St. James Parish, Loudoun County, Va. sold land to Charles Cox in Aug. 1735.

William Vardeman (with John Vardeman and William Vardeman Junr.) paid 3 tithes in Lunenburg Co. Va. in 1748, 1749 and 1750. In 1752 William Vardeman (with Robt. Verdeman) paid 2 tithes and William Vardeman Junr. paid 1 tithe.

William Verdiman and William Verdiman Junr. testified at a court hearing at Halifax Co. Va. in 1758 (and testimony refers to Wm. as "Old Wm. Verdiman aged about 60")

William Vardeman left will in Newberry County, South Carolina dated 1783 and proved 1789, naming
wife - Bridget
Sons - Eldest son John } one shilling each as
2nd son William } each has already received
3rd son Peter } his part of estate
Younger son James (plantation and personal property)

I can't decide whether this William of S.C. was "Old Wm." or Wm. Junr. No one seems to know much about his family except that the son James had three sons - William b. ca. 1775, Thomas b. 1777 &

Joseph b. 1781. I'm checking now on a rumor
which suggests that the wife of James was Sabra Lyles

Summers's book on Newberry Co. states "William Vardeman came with his family before the Rev. War, settled near Hunting Fork between Enoree and Tiger Rivers, . . . died about 1788 leaving widow Bridget and children John, William, Peter and James. James inherited the home plantation at Hunting Fork. Some of the other sons moved to Georgia and Alabama. James sold his lands later so it is, probably he too went to Alabama."

I have the feeling that "my John" of Mercer Co. Ky. might have been the eldest son of William of the South Carolina will because the 1860 census of Wayne County, Ky. shows Sabra McKinney as aged 76 (so born about 1783-4) and born in South Carolina. I believe that Sabra was the youngest child as her sister married in 1787. If she did have an older brother John he could well be the John you are hunting. I don't know - but I am still searching and surely will find more soon.

Let me hear from you again.

Sincerely,

(mo.) Dorothy McKinney Deck

Dear Mrs. Tierney:

I have waited to write until I could recheck my records. Once about three years ago when writing on my Payne line I sent a will received from a relative in Va. without double checking it - and it was wrong. I have had to explain that about a dozen times so now I am much more careful.

First of all, I have a note of a John Vardaman shown on the 1816 census of Adams Co. Miss. I wonder if he could possibly be your John -

John Vardaman

1 male over 21

1 male under 21

1 female over 21

4 females under 21

total whites - 7

total inhabitants - 7

I am afraid that the Ky. wills will not do much towards clearing up the history of the family. You no doubt know that there was a Rev. Jeremiah Vardaman of Kentucky and Missouri - he has been called the most famous Baptist minister of Ky. - and it is his sketch as written up in Spencer's History of Kentucky Baptists that has been accepted by most - that John Jr. came to S.C. from Sweden ca. 1725 and when 17 years old and that he married Elizabeth Morgan, a native of Wales, in S.C., moved to Bedford Co. Va. - to now Mythe Co. Va. where Rev. Jeremiah was born in 1775 and on to Lincoln Co. Ky. And that the first John V. of S.C. lived to be 125 years old! I simply can't

accept this as the true version. Anyway, most everyone searching on the family has tried to connect all Vardamans as children of John Jr. and Elizabeth Morgan and so:

1. Will of Peter Vardeman (descendants think son of John and Elizabeth - I doubt it).
Shelby Co. Ky. - dated 23 July 1808
pro. 1809

Wife - Prudence (thought to have married
1758-60 Bedford Co. Va.)

Daughters - Naomi Marshall
Prudence Marshall
Dorcas Overell
Naomi Nash
Sally Lancaster
Molly Menefee

Grand-dau. - Patty Menefee

Son - Thomas

Wit: John Ford; Jessie Rice

Exors: Thomas Vardeman;

Lewis Marshall, son in law

George Marshall, son in law

2. Will of Morgan Vardeman (probably son of John and Elizabeth)
Lincoln Co. Ky. - dated 25 April 1835
pro. 1847

✓ Sons - John T.
William
Jeremiah

Daughters - Jane Clemons (adopted dau.)
Elizabeth Pennington, deceased
✓ Ann Stephenson

Wit: Thos. Buford; Hiram P. Sanders

Exors: Jeremiah Vardeman; John Welch

(other dau. - at least Polly who married
John Welch - not mentioned)

Thomas D. 1111, m. Ann Vinny
Joseph b. 1781, m. Rachel Vinny

I have a few records on Thomas and he was in various counties of Ga. that you mention - Thomas Vardaman b. 1777 Dutch Fork, S.C. - moved to Jefferson Co. Ga. where married 1801 Annie Vinny - moved to Jasper Co. Ga. where son Edwin Liler (I think it should be Liles) was b. 2 Feb. 1804 - moved to Jefferson Co. Ga. in 1805 - to Putnam Co. Ga. in 1827 - moved to Dutch Fork, S.C. - moved to Coosa Co. Ala. in 1838. Died Coosa Co.

Another possibility is the Wm. Vardaman who died in Wilkes Co. Ga. in 1796. I don't know who his children were but I feel sure that he had some. Davidson's book on Early Records of Wilkes Co. shows among original papers of 1792-1830:

Francis Billingslea and Jane Vardaman, Marriage Contract - all property to be divided among the heirs of each and not to go to each other. Sec. - John Rings, Stephen Evans, Winston Bennett

It seems to me quite probable that this Jane Vardaman was the widow of Wm., and if so the name of the security, W. Bennett, suggests that one of the children might be the Bennett Vardaman you mention. I hadn't found a reference to him before.

I think that early Georgia records are most important. You know, before 1798 Georgia claimed all lands to the Mississippi River. In 1798 the Territory of Mississippi was created from the western half of Georgia and Alabama was created from this Territory in 1817.

Do let me hear from you again.

Sincerely - Dorothy Beck

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Vardaman Family

Dear Mrs. Tierney:

I am so very excited over the Brunswick County records that you have just sent. To me they are a very important link in tracing back on the family.

No, I don't think that your William is the son William of the S.C. will. I think that he was a grandson of that William - but I don't know just how.

I think that the William of the will was a quite old man - about 91 when he died in 1789.

I also think that he was the William whom you have found in "Old Brunswick" in 1744 and that he was in Lunenburg and Bedford Counties, Virginia until about 1766 when he moved to South Carolina.

I have a certified copy of the S.C. will and my interpretation of it is that Bridget was a 2nd (or 3rd) wife and James her son and much younger than John, William and Peter named as 1st, 2nd and 3rd sons - and James with son Thomas born 1772 (and we don't know that he was the oldest child) had to be born ca. 1750-52 or earlier.

Did you find any Morgans in the Brunswick County records? I think that the Morgan family will be found there. There was a Welsh settlement on the Meherrin River by 1740 - and on the Lunenburg Co. tithable lists of 1748 I found on one list:

William Verdeman
John Verdeman
William Verdeman Junr. - 3 tithes

Rice Morgain - 1 tithe
William Morgain - 1 tithe

((These would seem to be sons of Thomas with dau. Elizabeth ~~Morgan~~ Vardeman))

I know that all deeds of Virginia and Kentucky were copied for the library at Salt Lake City - I don't know what other records or states - it is wonderful that you can check them and I do believe that you will find some valuable records for all of us.

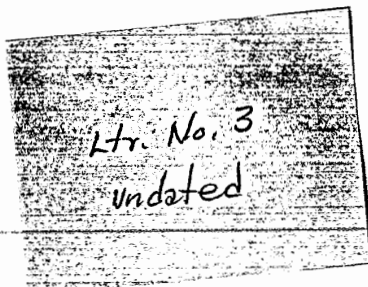
Thanks again - and also for the Texas will.

Sincerely,

1824
30
1806

*Wm died S.C. 1789 ? Son born 1728 ?
91 yrs
1698 born*

*John -
Peter -
Wm - one Wm died 1798. Wm Co.*



*Vardeman Brunswick Co Va 1748
Lunenburg 1748*

S.C. about 1766?

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Vardaman Family

June 12, 1967

Dear Mrs. Tierney:

I was glad to have your letter - I haven't just neglected to answer it - I have been in a real slump on this family for the last few weeks.

17 years ago a man in Mississippi wrote my mother "In all the many lines of my wife's family I have been able to make the least progress in the Vardaman line. None of the descendants seem to have been able to dig up any thing authentic". 17 years later I can make the same statement. I have been hunting for ten years and my mother worked on it long before that. Every so often I have to admit that I am just going round in circles - but I am here and I know that my 3rd. great grandmother was Sabra Vardaman and that she was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Vardaman and so there has to be an answer somewhere - and so I start over, but I haven't one scrap more of real proof than mother had one month after she first identified Sabra Vardaman McKinney. Dates and locations are so important, it seems to me - and it seems to me that they have been completely disregarded in most of the research on this family.

I hadn't seen a copy of Mrs. King's papers but I have seen a copy of the paper of a descendant of Magdalene Vardaman Cockrill giving the same information on the first John Vardaman. I am sure that Mrs. King's record back to Morgan Vardaman is correct and that he was the son of John Vardaman but -- perhaps I am the one who is entirely wrong, but I cannot believe that John Vardaman was born 1718 in Sweden and died 1827 in Johnson County, Missouri. That is the information as shown in Spencer's History of Kentucky Baptists. I have been told, however, that Rev. Jeremiah was supposed to write his family history but after his death it was found that he had not written one word and Spencer wrote his sketch from material given him by a Rev. Black who had helped Rev. Jeremiah found the church at Palmyra, Missouri - just what Rev. Black could remember of stories Rev. Jeremiah had told of his family. It seems to me that it would have been very easy for him to have left out a generation or two - and that is what I think he did. There are too many discrepancies and none of it can be proved. For instance - (1) John and Elizabeth Morgan Vardaman are said to have had 12 children with birthdates from 1740 to 1775 - 12 children spread out over a 35 year period seems strange to me/ (2) John V. is said to have left Lincoln County, Ky. for Missouri in 1812. He would have been 94 years old then, and I can find no relatives who came to Missouri in 1812. Missouri was unsettled territory then - didn't become a state until 1821 - and I can't believe that a 94 year old man came here alone; (3) John V. is said to have died 1827 in Johnson County, Missouri but I have had Johnson County records checked with no results. The name Vardaman doesn't even appear in the General Index of Johnson County. This account has been accepted as truth by most every one but I do believe that there is some error in it (I can't find proof for one single statement) and that is why none of us can find the proof we need.

I am going to keep hunting - and I hope that you will also, and maybe one of us will find something important soon.

Verdiman

In your search look also under the spelling of ~~Vardaman~~ that was the spelling in "Old Lunenburg, Va.") and also Vaneman or Vandeman. That doesn't sound like the same family and yet I have some evidenced that it may be.

Let me hear from you again - and I would like very much to have a copy of the Mississippi record you found of John Vardaman selling land to John Morgan in 1795.

Sincerely,

Dorothy McKinney Heck

Ltr. No. 4

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Vardaman Family

April 17, 1968

Dear Dorothy T-

I am so glad that you have decided to call me Dorothy. It seems rather ridiculous for us to be so formal when we are so diligently searching for the same records and share, I am sure, some of the same ancestors.

I am glad to send you a Xerox copy of the will of William of South Carolina - but as you can see, the Clerk couldn't furnish a photostat - could only send a certified typewritten copy.

I have waited to write in hopes that I would have some records from Bedford County to include - but I doubt now that they are even going to answer my letter. Perhaps, anyway, you have already checked the reels on Bedford County and have found some of the clues we need. (The Mormon Library sounds wonderful - I do wish that there was one near here).

I did check on the Brunswick County record you sent. I didn't get a copy of the deed but a Deputy Clerk checked Indexes of Deeds, Wills and Estates and Marriages and wrote that the name Vardeman (Verdeman etc.) did not appear - that there was no record of this land (74 acres) being sold.

It seemed to me that the land was probably actually in Lunenburg County, and here is a letter from the Clerk there -

"The indexes to Wills and Estates, Devises and Heirs, Deeds and Marriage records for the years 1746 (year Lunenburg County was formed from Brunswick County) through 1850 but the following was the only reference we found in the name of Verdeman, Vardeman, Vordoman-

By deed dated March 22, 1751, recorded August 7, 1753 in Deed Book 3 at page 321 Israel Peterson of Prince George County, Virginia conveyed to William Verdeman of Lunenburg County, 20 acres of land in the said county of Lunenburg on the North side of the Stanton River on lower side of Plumbtree Branch, bounded by the said Verdeman, the river, said Plumbtree Branch. Witnesses to said deed were Matthew Marable, Thomas Pithan and William Morgan.

The above mentioned land is not in present day Lunenburg County.

The description of the land indicates Bedford County to me. One interesting thing about the deed is the grantor - Israel Peterson - since we know that one William Verde Man married Marghlene Peterson on 21 April, 1720 in Holy Trinity (Old Swede's) Church of Wilmington, Delaware.

Where did you find the Lincoln Co. Ky. deeds? The date on the one to Roney McKinney interests me -

Indenture 18 Day 1789-Aug; Between John Coyler of Fayette Co. Kent. and Roney McKinney of Mercer Co. sold to McKenny 100 A lying in Lincoln Co. 5 Day Oct. 1782.

Signed John Collier

This would be the earliest Kentucky date for Rane. I would like to prove that he was in Ky. in 1782 - I know that a brother was. - I knew of the deed but had only a date of 18 Aug. 1789.

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these typewritten copies arrived - I don't know how she got them and thought it was best not to ask any questions about it.

I think that there must have been three John Vardamans in Kentucky about 1785 -

John - born ca.1722 (son of William) - m. 2nd Elizabeth ?
son,

John - born ca.1743 - m. Elizabeth ?
son,

John - born ca.1764 - m.1785 Mary Spaulding
died ca.1811 Pulaski County, Ky.

I think that this oldest John must have had a 2nd.(or 3rd.) wife and children born about the same date - or later - than his grandchildren. So few records have been found that everyone has thought that there were just the two Johns there - one whole generation (the middle one) has been omitted. But which John was the father of Rev. Jeremiah? - and which John was the father of my Tabitha and Sabra? There is surely some clue that I am just overlooking - I just can't make the connection.

You mention Draper's statement that John died in St. Louis County, Mo. I hope that you can find some proof on this - I certainly can't. Just to prevent duplication of searching I will tell you of my attempts. I made a special trip to the Missouri Historical Society library to study the 1830 census and I checked it twice - by name and by males 80 years of age and older - no John Vardaman there then. I have wondered if the date by Draper is a misprint and should have been "about 1825" instead of "about 1835". This would make the age of 104 correct according to my theory of John being the son of William. Missouri wasn't a state until 1821 and there is no census for inhabitants of St. Louis County in 1820 that I can locate.

Next I asked a friend in St. Louis to check on the Old John Sappington cemetery. She is very interested in old records and she and a friend located this cemetery which is now in the town of Crestwood and copied the names on all of the stones. If a John Vardaman is buried there it can't be proven - there are graves without stones and there are stones which are so worn that they can't be deciphered - but there is no stone with the name of any Vardaman.

This is a very mixed-up letter I am afraid but I am going to send it anyway because I will be so busy the next few days with a rummage sale for my church and several meetings etc. - and I do want you to know that I do so appreciate your letters and the records that you are willing to share with me.

Sincerely,

Dorothy

Have you checked order books of early Jefferson or Fayette counties, Ky.? I have no records at all from early Jefferson County and have wondered if something might be there.

apparently a
page missing here

May 20, 1960

Dear Dorothy -

you don't owe me a thing for the copy of the will. I just wish that I had more of value to send.

I'm not having any luck at all in finding anything new. I've just rented two books from the National Genealogical Soc. - History of Mercer and Boyle Counties, Kentucky, and History of Tazewell Co. and Southwest Virginia 1748-1920 - not even a mention of a Vardaman.

I know that it is slow and hard to read the reels - but I am sure that you are going to find something of value. It is wonderful that you can use one of the Mormon libraries. I certainly wish that there was one near here. I tried to see if the local church could rent any of the reels for me. I don't know any of the members and I evidently talked with the wrong person at the church because I got absolutely no information.

Something surely will turn up in Bedford Co. - and maybe something in Halifax and Pittsylvania. I know that

Peter was in Pittsylvania and Henry Counties - and there was a Vardiman Clements on the 1767 tithable list of Pittsylvania Co. That must have been a family name and his mother a Vardaman

I've just noticed - on 18 Aug. 1789

John Colyer (signed John Collier) of Fayette Co. Ky. sold land in Lincoln Co. to my Rency McKenny and Amajiah Vardaman was witness,

and

on 25 July 1802

William Vardeman of Washington County and Mississippi Territory sold land to Silvanus Walker and John Collier was witness.

There just has to be a close connection it can't be all just co-incidence.

I'll be awfully interested to know what you find in Bedford Co. records.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Neek

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Vardaman Family

May 24, 1968

Dear Dorothy:

I am writing at once because I don't want you to have the expense of a photo-copy of the letter you mention. I would like to see the letter - could you mail it to me and I would return it immediately? (Sometimes odd little bits of information add up to valuable data) - but the information on Rev. Jeremiah is wrong. Don't be angry with me for stating so so very definitely - one lady became so irritated with me over it (she said that it had to be correct because it was written so long ago - I believe that it was by T.M. Pennington and published in the Stanford, Ky. paper in 1890) that I could never hear from her again. I don't want that to happen with you - but it is wrong. Rev. Jeremiah Vardeman did not found Jewell (William Jewell) College at Liberty, Missouri, and he did not die at Liberty, Mo.

Rev. Jeremiah died in Ralls County, Missouri on 18 May, 1842 and is buried in a cemetery near New London, Ralls Co. The stone is on the ground now and broken through date died but shows:

Rev. Jeremiah Vardeman born July 8, 1775

My dad and the Business Manager of William Jewell College at Liberty were good friends for many years. And so several years ago I went to Liberty and spent most of a day with him, the librarian of the college and some of the retired teachers. I am sure that they told me the truth - all were quite positive that Rev. Jeremiah was in no way ever connected with the college but that two of his sons, Jeremiah Jr. and especially Rev. William H., were very interested in the school and because of this the building in which the first dining room was located was known as Vardeman Hall. The building burned years ago and there is no building by the name on the campus now. The son, William H. was collecting agent for William Jewell in 1852 and he gave 200 acres in Montgomery Co. Mo. to the permanent funds of the college.

AND

(and this is the reason for the error, I believe) the Theological Department of the college was named The Jeremiah Vardeman School of Theology. William Jewell is a Baptist College. A book in their library "The History of William Jewell College" by J. Clark, 1893 explained it thus:

It tells of the Rev. Jeremiah's success as a pioneer Baptist minister of Missouri and of his last sermons when he was too weak to stand and concludes - "It was a fit recognition of the man and his work that the Board of Visitors of the Theological Department of William Jewell College gave his name to the School which they had endowed. This occurred at the meeting of the General Association in August 1869 (27 years after Rev. Jeremiah died-D.D.) When the Constitution adopted by the Board of Visitors was formally approved and accepted by the Trustees and the Jeremiah Vardeman School of Theology became an integral part of William Jewell College."

If you want them I have, I believe, a complete list of Rev. Jeremiah's family - 16 children by 3 wives but several of them died in infancy.

So far I am quite baffled by the Bedford Co. records - weren't you surprised to find William, William Jr. and Peter - but not one mention of John? He (John) according to Spencer was the only one of the name in Bedford Co. and lived near the Peaks of Otter. These, of course, are on the Otter River which is a northern tributary of the Staunton River along which is shown to be some of William's land. I have long wondered how much of the family record as given by Spencer is correct. Don't get me wrong - I am not trying to argue with those who do believe it so very strongly - but it just doesn't agree with the records that I have found. As I understand it, the Baptist Assoc. asked Rev. Jeremiah to write a sketch on his family but when he died it was

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found that he had not written one sentence. And so Spencer wrote his article from what he could obtain from church records and from what Rev. Black who had been associated with Rev. Jeremiah in the establishing of the church at Palmyra, Mo. could remember of stories that Rev. Jeremiah had told him about his family. An error could so easily have been made - a generation omitted, names mixed up etc. etc/ I believe that that article has misled researchers for years - made them misinterpret the records they found - but I will admit that I just go round and round in circles and don't see the answer.

I would think that John never lived in Bedford Co. if it weren't for this record ((which I have never verified)) -

Virginia Colonial Militia - p.69

Bedford County Militia September 1758

..... John Vardaman

Here is another record which I have never checked - it would seem to indicate that William Jr. stayed in (or returned to) Bedford Co. much later than the others -

Virginia Militia in the Revolution - p.189

Bedford County May 27, 1779

1st Lieut. - William Vardaman

Incidentally, I have seen in some reference books that sometimes the wife did not join in the transaction when land was sold but did relinquish her dower rights - but that this relinquishment did not show in the deed books but in the County Court Minutes. This might be the case in the Goochland and Bedford deeds - but I don't see how it can be checked until some one of us gets to Va. in person. The court minutes could then be checked on the date shown that the deed was proven before the court - but it might be quite a job.

I have never gotten the Newberry Co. South Carolina deed - perhaps I should have, but the clerk wrote me that only one deed shows in the deed indexes:

Deed Bk. D-2, p.418-422

Samuel Aubrey to William Vardaman-
dated 13 December 1766

Sometimes McKinnis
I have been trying to figure out what counties might have some of the answers - it is such a gamble. I am wondering if there will be any thing of value in Halifax Co. records - or in Henry Co. records. There just might be something in Pittsylvania Co. I think that we can assume (from name of wife) that this Peter who sold Bedford Co. land on 24 Dec. 1767 was the Peter who died in Shelby Co. Ky. in 1808. And I am guessing that he was the Peter (of Pittsylvania Co.) who bought land in Pitts. Co. from Wm. Cooke on 24 Aug. 1769. Pittsylvania Co. was formed from Halifax in 1767. This land was in Henry Co. later and Peter was shown as being of Henry Co. on Feb. 17, 1777 when he bought adjoining land from Wm. Cooke. Whether we would find any thing of value in knowing when and how Peter disposed of this land I wonder. Peter was Ensign (2nd. Lieut.) of Pitts. Co. Militia on 27 Sept. 1775 and resigned as Capt. of Henry Co. Militia on 22 April 1779. Henry Co. wasn't formed until 1777.

Just as a gamble I will be more than glad to pay the rental fee if you would like to check the Indexes of Charlotte Co. I have the feeling that my Rane and Stephen McKinney must have known Amariah in Virginia - and my McKinnys (McKenny) - Charles (and 13 sons and 2 daughters) - had been in Charlotte for at least a year when it was formed from Lunenburg in 1765.

To go back to Spencer's History, John is supposed to have moved from Peaks of Otter to the New River Settlement in 1767, to the Clinch River Settlement in 1777 and to Kentucky in 1779. I have read every book that I can find on

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This section of Va. - hunting several different families there - but I have found no Vardemans. In 1767 the entire section was Orange Co. - but I have thoroughly checked Chalkley's Abstracts of Augusta Co. (3 volumes). Botetourt (formed 1770) should have something - also Fincastle (1772), Washington (1776) and Montgomery (1776). I don't know - I certainly haven't found them as yet.

I would also be very happy to pay the expense if you would be willing to check the indexes of Mercer County, Kentucky. I surely, surely have overlooked something there. This is the only record that I have -

Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Ky. Marriage Bonds

Sir

April 17th 1787

This is to Certify that we are fully satisfied that Rane McKinney should be united in the Bond of Marriage to our Daughter Tabitha Vardeman.

John Vardman

Elizabeth Vardaman

Test-

Amosiah Vardaman
Morgan Vardaman

Bond

Raney McKinney
& Tabitha Vardman
April 17, 1787
Rane McKinney
Amosiah Vardaman

Tests:

Thos. Allin

I can find nothing more - earlier or later - on John and Elizabeth. It is to me the strangest thing - almost eerie - almost as if they were here on this world from some other planet for just the one day. I have been told by some (but they seem to have no idea where the information came from and certainly offer no proof) that my John was born ca. 1745 in now Henry Co. (but at that date it was Brunswick or Lunenburg and where are the records?) and married ca. 1768 or 1769 to Elizabeth Franklyne (Franklin) - where?

The marriage bond of Rane and Sabra ten years later (Jan. 1797) is in Lincoln Co. If the 1850 census record is correct she married when 12 or 13 - but I have not been able to find a consent of parents or guardian.

If my John and Elizabeth had a daughter old enough to marry in 1787 (so perhaps born ca. 1770) and if Sabra was born 1783 or 1784 - (and born in South Carolina) - there must have been other children - who were they and what became of them.

There certainly are Kentucky records which haven't been found - but I don't know which counties to suggest. I have wanted to have early records of Jefferson and Fayette checked - and there just might be something in Woodford Co. There was a William Vardeman who married Lucetia Middleton July 1833 in Anderson Co. Ky. - who was he? Who were the brothers Joseph Jerome and Simeon Vardaman who went to Ga. from Ky. ca. 1810? And who in the world was the Ham Vardeman (2 males over 45) on the 1810 Lincoln Co. Ky. census? Only he and Morgan V. are shown on this 1810 census and only

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Morgan V. on the 1820 census. Where was "Old John" Vardaman who supposedly left Crab Orchard in the fall of 1812 for Mo. living in 1810?

I am going around and around in circles again so will quit.

Happy Hunting -

Sincerely,

Dorothy Heck

Did you find the Walkers in Brunswick and Lunenburg records? One Silvanus Walker was there early - was one of six constables appointed at the 1st court of Lunenburg 5 May 1745 (Ref: History of Pittsylvania County by Clement).

June 10, 1960

Dear Dorothy —

Again I must apologize - I'm ashamed of my delay in returning the enclosed letter - but I have had conflicts. I cracked a tooth a few weeks ago - and I have been fighting a swollen jaw. Also we are having a reception at my church on the 30th - our rector has been a priest (Episcopal) for forty years and rector of our church for twenty years - and for some unexplainable reason I am in charge of it. I've never before given a reception like that and I just didn't realize how many details must be checked. So please forgive me for being so slow.

I had a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Flesher about four years ago. I am afraid that I did a poor job of replying - things were quite mixed-up for me at the time and I was packing to spend several months in Atlanta with my brother. I have meant to write to them again - but just never have. They seem to have more records now - but here I go again tearing some of them down (I seem to be best at that - I do wish that I could find some records that seem right to me, who were the parents of Rev. Jeremiah? That, to me, seems the stumbling block in proving the family. Their records on the children of John and Elizabeth are those usually given - but I cannot believe that they are correct. As I understand it, there is no written record of any kind naming these children - it is a list as given by some of the Lockrill descendants from memory and without written proof. 12 children yes, but 12 children spaced over a period of 31 years from 1744 to 1775? It doesn't seem right unless John

had two or three wives and children by each. And I am sure that Thomas Morgan of Bedford Co. had a daughter Elizabeth who married a Vardaman - but I am not at all sure that he was John of Lincoln Co. Ky. If Elizabeth Morgan did marry John V. of Ky. and did have a daughter Mary May Malone born 1744 Ester Morgan, widow of Thomas, could not have been her mother. (of course she could have been a step-mother) D.A.R. papers have been proven on the service of Ester Morgan of Bedford Co. and they show that she (Ester) was born ca. 1730 and died 1805/6.

I really don't know where to suggest that the earliest records may be found. I personally (and with no proof at all) don't believe that the family came to South Carolina from Sweden ca. 1720-25. I have the idea that the immigrant came to New York - much earlier than that - that the family moved into New Jersey and then to one of the settlements near New East Delaware (then claimed by Pa. and called New Sweden, later into Virginia. I can't even make a guess as to what the name may have been in the earliest records. Vardaman is not a Swedish name - either contemporary or ancient. I've also checked on the possibility of the family coming from Holland and Vardaman is not a Dutch name - contemporary or ancient. Seven years ago I wrote to Mr. Johnson - a native of Sweden - author of the book "The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware". Here is the important paragraph of his reply - "Vardaman may be Swedish or Dutch greatly corrupted. The people living in the Delaware Valley with the name were greatly mixed Dutch, Swedish and English intermarrying. The name is

spelled in various ways in the old records and it is difficult to say which comes closest to the old name in Sweden and Holland as the English clerks that wrote down the name thought they heard it pronounced in different ways hence the different spelling.

This has made me feel that all of those using the variations Vardaman or Verdiman must have been very, very closely related.

A gentleman from Holland wrote me that often a name which is spelled Van der ? (means "of the") is shortened in pronunciation to Ver. And so it is possible that the original name could have been Van der damen (of the lady), Van der dammen (of the dam) etc. etc. Another less likely possibility is that it could have been Vaartman (cartmaker of Vaart canal) or Waardman (cartmaker or owner of a Waard which are the low lying meadows enclosed by dikes).

It is certainly a puzzle. I have given up so many times - and then a new record will appear and I start searching again and end up going round and round in the same old circle - but I am still hoping.

Have fun this summer with that little granddaughter. The records will still be there in the fall - but I will be anxious to hear from you then.

Sincerely,

Horatio Dick

October 24, 1967

Dear Mrs. Tierney:

How are you coming with your Vardaman family? I hope that you are having more luck than I am.

I have just been sent some Texas records and among them is a Rachel Vardiman who - it seems to me - could very possibly be the Rachel you are hunting. She was 77 years old in 1850 - born in Ga. - living with a son - and she had a granddaughter named Alsey (also shown as Ailsey and Ailsy).

1850 Census Rusk County, Texas

James B. Vardiman - m - 34 - Ga.

Elizabeth " - 24 - Ga.

- Alsey " - 2 - Ala.

Rachel " - 77 - Ga.

Elkins Ruffin - m. - 34 - Ala.

This Rachel Vardiman died in Rusk County, Texas about 1858. And it seems that she left a will. I don't have a copy of it but it might be that it would give proof that she was the mother of your Ailsy and Sarah Elizabeth.

The records sent me show that a copy of the

will is in Macgockes County, Texas Records.
Here is the information that I have -

Wills and Adm. - No. 58 - Bond and Oath of
Elizabeth Vardeman, Adm. of James Henry
Vardeman and Ailey Jane Vardeman -
filed 26 Sept. 1858

Petition of Elizabeth Vardeman 14 Sept. 1858 -
Elizabeth Vardeman wife of Thomas
Jefferson Vardeman respectfully represents
unto your honor that she intermarried
with James B. Vardeman on or about
the year 1848 in the State of Alabama
and in the year 1851 the said James
departed this life leaving two children,
a son and a daughter to wit: Ailey
Jane and James, the heirs of the petitioner
and the said James B. Vardeman and
that petitioner intermarried with the
present husband Thomas J. Vardeman
in 1854 and that the said James and
Jane, minor heirs of said parents has
not had any guardian appointed for
them and that they have a small
estate coming from their grandmother's
estate to wit: Rachel Vardeman, deceased
in Rusk County.

Amended Petition: Petitioner now lives in

Macogdoches Co. with her two children
Ailsey Jane 8 years old and James Henry
age 6 years of age. Sept. 29, 1858.

Elizabeth Vardeman, Adm. of Ailsey Jane &
John Henry Vardeman, vs. James F. Armstrong
of Rusk Co. with the will annexed of
Rachel Vardeman, dec'd.

James Henry Vardeman departed this life in
Macogdoches Co. 6 June 1860.

\$200.00 was willed & set apart by the minor
grandmother and has been in the hands
of James Armstrong of Rusk Co. Petitioner
desires that the said Armstrong turn over
the money to the guardian or put it in trust
for Ailsey Jane Vardeman, the only surviving
minor.

(This on separate little bits of paper in one
packet).

The names Rachel and Ailsey seem such
a good clue to me - I'll be interested to
know if this is your family.

Sincerely,

Worothy Heck

Dear Dorothy — ~~Don't worry~~ requested.

So your daughter's name is Dorothy Ann - a very pretty name, I do think - it happens to also be my name! I hope that she and the baby are both doing fine now.

Now I must apologize for not writing sooner - I have never been busier in my life - doing nothing much. I've had to have some repairs made this fall on several pieces of property - and am trying to get this house (it is ~~old~~ ~~old~~) and yard ready for cold weather. and I have too many little jobs in too many groups - they don't sound like much but altogether they do take time - I'm Registrar of our DAR Chapter and Treasurer of our DAC Chapter, and I'm president of the Women's Group in my church - our minister is retiring next week and we are having a Rummage Sale on Nov. 3rd. and a Church Bazaar on Nov. 13th so the next few weeks will be rather hectic.

If you haven't already ordered them, don't check Halifax County will books. Unless I am slipping badly the name Vardeman doesn't occur even once in the first 15 books (0 to 14 incl.) (1753 to 1829).

I needed some records badly because some details were being questioned on my Pain (Payne) line. I finally arranged for the library here to order microfilm for me from the Va. State Library - early deeds and wills of Pittsylvania Co. (deeds to 1802 and wills to 1820). It is certainly time consuming - and not easy on the eyes, but certainly worth it because of records I found on my Paynes, Wilsons, Hardins and Piggys. On the Vardeman I found only the one deed which we already had (24 Aug. 1769 - Wm. Cook to Peter Vardeman - 50 acres on both sides of Pigg River) and a survey dated 23 June 1769.

John Vardaman - 50 acres on ^{Big} river.
Once started, I haven't wanted to stop. I've checked
Charlotte Co. deeds for McKinney (no Vardamans there)
and asked for Halifax Co. wills and deeds - they don't
always send just what I ask for so only the will book
records arrived - the deed books may come next month.
You said that you would check that county, I know,
but I am hunting so many families there (I know
that all those in Pitts. Co. were in Halifax earlier) so
I want to check the deeds for them if possible.

I am wondering - do you have a list to order
from? If so, will you please check on wills ^{books} available
in Charlotte Co. and records available of Cumberland Co.
and Prince ~~Edward~~ ^{George} Co. I can't get a list from the Va.
State Library - I just have to guess on what I am
ordering (can order 8 reels at a time - have to pay
postage which has been \$1.02) I want McKinney
records from Cumberland and Charlotte - doubt if
there are Vardamans there - but it seems to me that
there is a chance that there might be something in
Prince ~~Edward~~ ^{George} Co. because of that deed from a
Peterson there (I think that he perhaps was a
brother-in-law of "Old Wm. Vardaman")

Now tell me about the Order Book records of
Lincoln Co. Ky. - what do you order? And, are there
similar records for Mercer Co.? I want to see if
our library can order them for me from the Kentucky
State Library.

I don't think that a photocopy of the Bedford Co.
deeds will be of any help just now - but I may
be asking you soon to send me a copy of your copy
of the deed from Peter and W. Prudence.

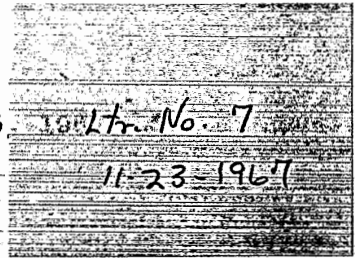
A genealogist in Kentucky wrote me a few weeks

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ago asking for some records on a daughter of my
McKinney ancestor. I had them - and proof and did
send them to her. She seems to appreciate it - she
is selling them, of course, and probably would it
have found them because they were in a county
that she hadn't known to search. She has offered
to search Mercer and Lincoln Co. records for McKinneys
and Vardamans. I do hope that she finds a new
clue or two. I have spent a week trying to work
up a work-chart for her on the family. Now I am
more sure than ever that two generations have
been combined into one - and that the list of
brothers and sisters of Rev. Jeremiah is not at
all correct - but it will certainly take several
new records to untangle the family - Spencer's
record and the first DAR paper have been
accepted as truth for too long. I'll let you know
if I receive any thing of value from her - and I
hope that you will let me know if you find
any thing. I still think that records to identify
my John and his wife Elizabeth will have to be
in Virginia - (because Sabra was born in
South Carolina ca. 1783-84) but I would like
to find something in Ky. to show what became
of them. Just that one record in Mercer Co. in 1787 -
nothing earlier and nothing later - is frustrating.
Maybe will find some answers soon - I do hope
so + I'm so tired of going around and around in
my ideas on the family. Sincerely,
Dorothy Heck

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Vardaman Family

November 23



Dear Mrs. Tierney:

I am sorry to be so slow in answering, but I am just getting over a siege of the flu.

I will try to find out more about the records that I sent you. Those records were copied by a Mrs. Watkins who lives in the southern part of Texas on a rush trip during her last vacation. She is a descendant of William (who married Ann ?) who is thought to have been a son of John and Elizabeth Morgan V. and she was checking to see if the William of Rusk County records could possibly be him. She didn't have time to copy all of the records she found in detail but I am writing to see if she saw a copy of the will and where she thinks a copy can be obtained.

Also, someone wrote me once that there is a college in Nacogdoches Co. which has a wonderful library of the early records of the county. I'm sorry - I don't know the name of the college or how much information their librarian would send anyone.

You asked for proof that Joseph Vardaman married Rachel Vining - I am sorry that I don't have any. I believe that that information came from one of the Vinings - perhaps the Mr. Vining of Alabama with whom you are corresponding. I have never written to him but I do hear often from a Mrs. Leathers in San Antonio. I believe that she sent those records to me and she has mentioned Mr. Vining several times so I imagine that she got the names from him. She is a descendant of Sally C. Vardaman who married Samuel McCormick in Lincoln Co. Ky. (the note you sent from the Va. Genealogist). We have traded records for years but still haven't found the answer for either of us.

I'll write again as soon as I have any ideas on securing more of these Rusk and Nacogdoches counties records.

HAPPY HUNTING -

Sincerely,

Horatio Beck

*924 E Elm St
Springfield, Mo. 65806*

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Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

February 28, 1968

Dear Mrs. Tierney:

I was delighted to have your letter and so glad that you have found some records of real value. I am very interested in learning what records are there.

I only wish that I could at least find an interesting clue or two - I have tons more of records and correspondence but actually know not one thing more about my part of the family than I did ten years ago.

My Payne family connection is later - In Kentucky. In 1825 Sabra Vardaman McKinney's son James married Elizabeth Payne - 16 years later James's nephew, John Vardaman McKinney, married Elizabeth's niece, Rachael Payne, (and they were my great grandparents). BUT I do think that the Panes of Rusk Co. Texas are the same family. I have my line back to the immigrant who received grant on the Rappahannock in 1652 - the family was in Middlesex and Essex Counties - then five brothers and two sisters moved to various Va. counties along the North Carolina line. I am sure only of my own line which was in Pittsylvania County (records show as Payne-Pain-Pane).

I know that one Peter Vardaman was in Pittsylvania Co. in 1775 and in Henry Co. in 1779; and I believe that all of the Vardamans were in that section of Va. for many, many years. Perhaps I have already sent you this:

SUNLIGHT ON SOUTHSIDE by Bell (Tithable lists of "Old Lunenburg County")

A List of Tithables taken pr. me Matw Talbot for ye year 1749-
(Talbot's list - "from the mouth of Falling River to the
mouth of Otter River"-D.D.)

	No.	Crows	Squirrels
Wm. Verdeman			
John Verdeman			
William Verdeman -	3		18

Same listing in 1750.

1752 List by John Phelps (territory covered is now Bedford and Campbell Cos-D.D)

Wm. Verdeman
Robt. Verdeman - 2 tithes

Wm. Verdeman Junr. - 1 tithe

The name does not appear on later lists - probably because they were living in the section which became Halifax Co. in 1752. A court hearing in 1758 on troubles of settlers of Halifax and Bedford counties with Indians tells of an encounter by "Old Wm. Verdeman, aged about 60, and Wm. Verdeman Junr.

I don't have the cemetery records from Marshall, Mo. - but I believe that I do have something on the earliest settlers there:

Two brothers -

1. John Thomas Vardeman - b.1838 Shelby Co.Ky. - to Saline Co. 1882
2. Rev. William Vardeman - b.1842 Shelby Co. - to Saline Co. 1878

Descendants say that these were sons of Peter and wife Polly Scroggins and that Peter was son of John and wife Elizabeth Morgan - but have no real proof. I don't know - others say that John and Elizabeth's son Peter married Prudence ? in Va. ca.1758 and died in Shelby Co.Ky. in 1809 - and others say that John and Elizabeth's son Peter married Rachel Wilson. I don't know who is correct.

about the Scroggins family - but I wonder if the Lawsons

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don't go back to the same section of Virginia. I think that I have a Lawson line although I have never worked on it. A great grandfather was Jason Fulbright of N.C. - Ga. - Ark. - Mo. He had a brother Lawson Henderson Fulbright in Texas. I think that the mother was a Henderson - dau. of James who married Violet Lawson in Cumberland Co., Va. and later moved to Granville Co. N.C.

I have an idea that there might be some records on the family in early records of the NEW RIVER settlements of western Virginia - but I have not yet been able to check any books on that section.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Heck

I will be very interested in the records you find in Texas and - when you have the time I would appreciate a list of all children and grandchildren named in Rachel's will.

Excuse the typing - I do need a new ribbon very badly.

Sept. 18, 1968

Dear Dorothy -

I was so glad to hear from you again and I do thank you most sincerely for the records that you sent. We have so few books here that I do appreciate all data sent me.

I have never been so far behind on everything it seems. I have had to have some major repairs made on some rental properties - and they have taken so much time. And the smell of fall and cold weather is in the air although we will have some more nice warm days - and I have so much that I want to do indoors and in the yard. I will never, never get finished, I'm afraid.

So - I haven't been able yet to hunt up the marriage records for you - but I will send all that I have in the next few days.

The record from Montgomery Co. Va. is interesting. It is the first record that we have that a John Vardaman actually owned land anywhere in Va. The earlier record could be in Botetourt Co. or even in Augusta Co. Fincastle Co. existed for a very short time. Augusta Co. was divided in 1769 and all the part South and West of North River became Botetourt Co. In Dec. 1772 Botetourt was divided into Botetourt and Fincastle and the Lead Mines on New River (now in Mythe Co. Va.) was designated as the county seat of Fincastle. On Dec. 31, 1776 Fincastle was divided into the counties of Montgomery, Washington and Kentucky.

I have rented and checked several books on that section of Va. (Chalkley's Abstracts of Augusta Co., Keyley's Virginia Frontiers, History of Southwest Virginia by Lewis P. Summers) - not one mention of a Vardaman. Chalkley does show a Peter Vansman and I have wondered if he could in some way be part of the family. I have tried for months, without success, to rent the book -

History of the Middle New River Settlement
and Contiguous Territory (S.W. Va.)
by D. E. Johnson

It probably has nothing - but it is a possibility.
I wonder if it is in your library.

I am also trying again to find more Delaware records - have written to see if there are any deeds and am trying to locate a copy of the book "The Swedish Settlements on the Delaware" by Dr. Armand Johnson.

Thanks again - and I'll write again in a few days after I have thought a little longer about the records you sent. There is one thing that I might say in answer to one of your questions. I don't believe that John Jr. and John Sr. of Kentucky were sons and fathers (at that date whenever two men of the same name lived in the same section the oldest was called Sr. and the youngest Jr. regardless of relationship). I believe that they were uncle and nephew or cousins - but which was my ancestor? - and where does he link into the family? - and who was his wife Elizabeth? I just keep going round and round in circles.

Sincerely,

Wm. Vardaman

Ans. Aug 28, 1969.

June 1, 1969

Dear Dorothy T.

I wonder how you are and how you are coming along on your search for Vardemans.

I haven't written for quite some time - but it isn't from lack of interest on the family. I've had various excuses - this has been a most disagreeable winter and spring to me as I had several attacks of the flu - and I have been in Dallas visiting an aunt, but mostly it is because I haven't located anything of value at all lately.

This is certainly the strangest family - none of the records seem to dovetail into one another. Usually a connection can eventually be established as records are found - but not the Vardemans. I do have a large file of records now, but I actually know no more about my gt-gt-gt. gt. grandparents than I did fifteen years ago - just that they were John and Elizabeth Vardaman - nothing else.

Did you, in your search of Bedford Co. records find a deed from a Joseph Vardeman? A friend has just sent me a letter from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Bedford Co. - she decided to re-check on possible marriages. He wrote that there were none and "no deeds to a Vardeman but 5 deeds from a William and Joseph Vardeman between 1763 and

1767. They must have been in this County when it was joined in 1754."

These deeds are, I believe, the three you found in Aug. 1763 from William ^W_{mak} Vardeman and the one in May 1765 from William Vardeman Jr. but was there also a Joseph Vardeman there? I wonder if he made a mistake and wrote Joseph when he meant Peter - I believe that you wrote that you had found a deed from Peter and wife P. precedence. He wants \$3.00 each to copy the deeds. I wonder if a copy is worth that.

I feel sure that William ^W_{mak} Vardeman is the William who died in South Carolina because the will is signed in the same way - and I am very sure that in some way he is my ancestor - but how? (I've found that Sabra was born in S.C. about 1783 (age 76 on 1860 census).

I hope that you have had better luck in your searching than I have - and I am curious to know if you have anything on a Joseph in Bedford Co.

Do let me hear from you.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Heck

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

Dear Dorothy:

I will have to remember 1969 as the year that I "Bogged down" completely - on my research and on my correspondence. Please forgive me again - I spread myself almost too thin these last few months on DAR, DAC, and my church - didn't leave myself enough time for myself. I suppose that I would do it again if I had it to do over - but I certainly didn't realize how much work I was promising to do.

You are wise to refuse to be Registrar for a chapter with 350 members - that is really a large chapter. We have at the moment 115 members with 4 applications and 3 resignations pending. It has kept me swamped. Of course, I do believe that in several cases I have done much more than is expected of a Registrar but I get interested when told about "missing links" and try to locate them. Our DAC chapter is so small that most of the members have to take an office - I won't be Regent, but at the moment I am Treasurer (and this is the time for dues). We had a large Bazaar at my church last month - very successful and I am quite proud of that but it did take work. And we have a new Rector - a wonderful person but full of vim, vigor and new projects. We have also had a Reception, a Family Night Supper and an Advent Sunday Breakfast - and more to come. I didn't expect all of that when I agreed to serve as Pres. of the Women of the Church for 1969 and 1970. Buying the food is my worst problem - it is embarrassing to have too little and painful financially to have too much - and it is quite a gamble because we can never be sure how many will attend.

Now for the Vardamans -

I am not sure how many more records I can get through my library - for some reason the library here always falls down on the amount of genealogical material they can order for anyone. The first records that came were wonderful - Pittsylvania Co. deeds from 1767 to 1802 and wills from 1767 to 1820. I had four families there - Payne(Pain), Wilson, Hardin and Pigg - and I found valuable records on all of them. BUT then I ordered deeds and wills of Charlotte Co. but received only deeds from 1765 to 1830. And I ordered deeds and wills of Halifax Co. and received only wills from 1753 to 1829. I really think that the Order Book records are the most valuable sources for the records that I am now hunting - but I didn't know how to request them. I will try again after the first of the year - but I am not too hopeful. It is very inexpensive - only the postage - which has run about \$1.02 for each package of 8 reels of film - and they can be kept for two weeks. There is, I believe, a private group in Texas who rent reels of film through our library but their service is much more expensive and they don't have many of the records that I want so I haven't yet ordered from them but may have to do so.

You mentioned the Bennetts of Pittsylvania Co. I didn't know to check for the name there and I don't find it in the records that I copied BUT - did you notice that the first record you found for William Verdeman in Bedford Co. (Deed Bk.1-p.243, 29 Dec.1758) was as Appraiser of the estate of Wm.Bennett?

According to the census of 1860 my Sabra was born in South Carolina and so I do think that her father John was a descendant of William who died in Newberry County - but was he the "Oldest son John" or a grandson? I have the feeling that if we could positively identify Sabra's parents all Kentucky records could be untangled and most of the puzzles on the entire family would all fit into place - but, as I have said a thousand times, where were they before May 1787 and what became of them after May 1787? It is frustrating - and astounding - even the poorest of families left records of some kind, but not that couple.

I have had trouble until the last few months in getting verified records out

(over)

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of Mercer County. Now I have a copy of most of the McKinney records there - but not one mention of a Vardaman except the one marriage consent. They evidently didn't own any land there - my last one forlorn hope is to have the Order Books of Mercer Co. - and Lincoln Co. - checked. I understand that every man over 16 had to work on the county roads so many days of each year - perhaps John, Amariah and Morgan Vardaman will be shown for that work and their place of residence can thus be determined.

The only name in Lincoln Co. records which interests me besides the Vardamans and Rane McKinney and his brother Stephen (Rane had 12 brothers with 3 killed in the Rev. - names unknown - but only Rane and Stephen show on Lincoln Co. records) is a Marriage Contract for Reubin Pain. This is one of my DAR lines - he was very active in Pitts. Co., Va. during the war and moved to Lincoln Co. Ky. when a rather old man. In his will dated 1819 he mentioned a contract marriage - evidently there were no children by this 2nd. wife, but I would like to know who she was.

And watch for the name Hoglin (Hoagland) on Lincoln and Mercer Co. records. There is a story among some members of my family that Sabra had a step-father named Hoglin. Other stories from this source have turned out to be entirely wrong so I don't know - it could be a step-father, a step-mother, a brother-in-law or even a 2nd. marriage for Sabra - or pure fantasy - but watch for the name.

Happy Hunting in 1970 - and let me know the results. I will send on anything that I locate.

Sincerely,

Dorothy

12-12-1969

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March 22, 1970

Dear Dorothy:

You probably already have a copy of this record which has just been sent me by Leah Watkins - but I think that it is such an important discovery that I am sending it on to you:

"from the Virginia State Library
Fincastle County Marriages - Bonds, 1773-75

Marriage of William Menefee and Elizabeth Vardeman
"daughter of John Vardeman."

This bond, dated 19 Dec 1774, for "fifty pounds current money," was signed by William Menefee and William Vardiman, the latter by mark. The bond notes that Elizabeth Vardeman is the "daughter of John Vardeman."

With the bond is a personal note signed by John Vardeman, writing his name instead of using a mark, which reads: Dycmber the 18th Day 1774 (illegible word) Mr. Marrayon (?) Sir please to grant alizons (a license) to William Meneffee and you will oblige your frind."

Test: Simon Cockrell
Wm Vardeman

(signed) John Vardeman

.....
There is also great similarity between the signature "John Vardaman" on the Fincastle note and the "John Vardaman" signing the bond of Rane McKinney and Tabitha Vardiman, 17 April 1787: witnesses, "Anniziah Vardaman and Morgan Vardaman." - but a handwriting expert would have to make a final judgement."

If you do by chance have a photostat of this record, will you please have a copy made for me? I will be more than glad to pay the cost if you'll just send me the amount. I am anxious to see how similar the signature of this John seems - to me - to the signature of my John of Mercer Co. I am also anxious to know the mark used as signature by William - and if it agrees with any of those on Bedford Co. records. Am I correct on these:

his
27 May 1754 - a witness, William X Vardeman - *Wm W Vardeman*
mark

his
22 Aug. 1763 and 23 Aug. 1763 - deeds signed - William W Vardeman
mark
(same on Goochland Co. deed and South Carolina will).

28 May 1765 - deed signed - William Vardeman Jr.

Were there three differen Wm. Vardemans there in Bedford County?

I am really excited - and really hopeful.

Ans: Mar 25, 1970.

Sincerely,

Dorothy

12 April 1970

Dear Dorothy -
Sorry - I didn't notice your note about the children of Rev. Jeremiah earlier.

I don't know about the Mary Vardeman born April 1, 1721 in the Stephenson Bible - but have always thought that it must be a misprint (I only had a typewritten copy) and should have been April 1, 1771 - and be the birthdate for Mary Trousdale Vardeman. Her birthdate is not given and this would make her married when 20 and probably about correct. (I wonder where she was buried - the Bible shows death on Oct. 1, 1844 but she isn't shown on the tombstone inscriptions although Morgan is).

I believe that the first Va. land of William V. (Goochland Co. deed of 1735) was in now Albemarle Co. - (200 acres on south side of Rivanna River near the mountains) - this would indicate that William didn't move around much in Va. - this isn't far from Rockfish River, and now Bedford Co. is only a little further South. This Rivanna - Rockfish section was, if my maps are correct, where "Old Michael Woods" and his group settled. It makes me wonder if William V. was one of that group who came down the Shenandoah Valley from Pa. - crossed through the gap of the mountains to the east - and were the first to settle on the East side of the mountains (Blue Ridge) in now Albemarle (at that time Goochland) Co.

yesterday was the first day which has seemed like spring - I worked too long in the yard - I am exhausted today and my hands are sore - so please excuse just these few notes.

Sincerely -

Dorothy

Pascagoula Public Library
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

27 April 1970

Dear Dorothy:

I wonder if the widow Jane Vardeman ever married Francis Billingslea (Billingsley) - or if he died before the marriage could take place. His will was dated 22 December 1798 and proved 4 January 1799.

I have a Billingsley line through my mother - an Elizabeth Billingsley who married James Hopkins ca. 1795 in Rowan Co. North Carolina. According to my records, her father and this Francis Billingslea (he wrote the name as Billingsley in Maryland) of Wilkes County, Georgia were 1st. cousins.

Francis Billingsley was born 1734-35 in St. Mary's Co. Maryland - married 1763-64 Asenath Howell - to Wilkes Co. Georgia 1789-90. On 23 June 1798 he was one of the appraisers of the estate of Jesse Walker. His will names eight sons and two daughters (Sarah Ann m. Thomas Norris and Mary m. David White) - no wife mentioned. He was a staunch Quaker, but did serve on Grand Jury of Harford Co. Md. and this has been accepted as service by DAR.

You mentioned checking Indexes of Kentucky counties. I really don't know which ones to suggest. I have wondered about Franklin Co. There is also a possibility of something more in early Fayette Co. - and I haven't had Jefferson Co. checked at all. I believe that I have checked Wayne and Adair Cos. quite thoroughly - have had Pulaski Co. checked twice - and a professional genealogist who works in Russell, Barren, Adair and surrounding counties told me that she had never seen the name Vardaman among those records.

I don't know what to suggest about the Jacob Vanbroom of Botetourt Co. I hadn't heard of this record before. I have checked on the only two names in DAR Patriot Index which seem to be in any way similar to Vardaman:

Van Deman, John
b. 10-12-1757, d. 1-18-1840
m. Mary Magdalene Hester
Private, Virginia - pension

Vandaman, Frederick
b. 1762, d. 7-8-1813
m. Susannah Hillicost
Private, Virginia

I had the pension papers of this John Vandeman checked by a friend on a trip to Washington, D.C. If there was any relationship it would seem to be so far back that it won't help us. He died in Ross County, Ohio 17 January 1840 and moved there before 1799. His children were Matthias, John, Conrad, Charles, Elizabeth (Perrins) and Henry. He served in Pa. troops and married Mary Hester 4 May 1786 in Fayette Co. Pa. John stated that he was age 75 in 1832 (so born ca. 1757) - "in Virginia not far from Stanton" - that he didn't know the day or month because his father died when he was very young and he had no family records - that his name being of German origin was pronounced in various ways by the officers and soldiers he was sometimes called Fundemore or Fandeman and not infrequently Fundaman or Fundamant - that his brother who served with him was called in the same way as in sport or derision.

Also in Augusta Co. was a Peter Vaneman as early as 1757. I checked on him through all of Chalkley's records - his wife was Elizabeth (Miller, it seems) and they were in Rockingham Co. Va. in Aug. 1779. I have an idea he was related to Wm. Vaneman who was in Salem Co. New Jersey in 1736.

Maybe all of these are a different branch of the family - I can't decide, but

[illegible]

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1964
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

100-443887-100

(The following information was obtained from the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.)

[illegible]

12. The following table shows the number of people who attended the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China, and the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, England. The number of people who attended the 2008 Summer Olympics is 1.1 million more than the number of people who attended the 2012 Summer Olympics. How many people attended the 2008 Summer Olympics? How many people attended the 2012 Summer Olympics?

Year	Number of people (in millions)
2008	1.1 million more than the number of people who attended the 2012 Summer Olympics
2012	

13. The following table shows the number of people who attended the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China, and the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, England. The number of people who attended the 2008 Summer Olympics is 1.1 million more than the number of people who attended the 2012 Summer Olympics. How many people attended the 2008 Summer Olympics? How many people attended the 2012 Summer Olympics?

Year	Number of people (in millions)
2008	1.1 million more than the number of people who attended the 2012 Summer Olympics
2012	

RECORDED

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1. 凡在本行开立存款账户的客户，均可向本行申请开立支票。

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100-443887-100

18

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Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

11 June 1970

Dear Dorothy:

The Baptismal record was found at Presbyterian Historical Society,
Philadelphia, Pa.:-

"K 565

AU4

MS 300"

Augusta Virginia Presbyterian Church (Old Stone)

"From a copy of a Diary by Rev. William C. White 1815

"Records of Baptisms by Rev. John Craig 1740-49

"Pastor of Augusta Church for 30 years -

"Baptisms -

"Father - William Vardeman - child Jemima
dated March 8, 1841

Rockfish SS ridge"

((This location would put him not in Augusta County BUT East of the
mountains is now Albemarle County))

I have been told that ~~xxx~~ this record is also shown in St. Paul's Vestry
Book of Hanover County, Va. - without the location ((I don't understand this)).

I also think that this was William (W) Vardeman - Rockfish River wasn't far
from South side of Rivanna River where the land sold by William in 1735 was
located.

I don't know what became of Jemima - BUT she was not Jemima Sappington who
is buried in the Sappington Cemetery near St. Louis, Missouri. That was
Jemima Fuller of Maryland - and she married John Sappington 1 February 1781
in Prince George County, Maryland. They had 17 children.

I don't know who Sabra Liles Vardeman was - certainly wish that I did - but
I still have the idea that she was a 1st. wife of James, and the mother of
his sons William, Thomas and Joseph. I have been re-checking the will of
Williamson Liles and it seems to me that his dau. Sabra was dead when he
made his will in October 1794 - that he had only one married daughter living
(Lucy Gorie) and that all of the others named were deceased and he was
leaving slaves to their children.

This is just a note but I am checking ^{county} Treenburg Court
Order records - and so you know that I am busy.

I do hope that you are finding records of value in
Bedford County.

Sincerely,

Dorothy

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Local History & Genealogy Dept.
Vardaman Family

NOTES by J. H. VARDAMAN

- 1992 -

on the

BIOGRAPHY OF E. L. VARDAMAN

(As published in the HISTORY OF ALABAMA and DICTIONARY OF ALABAMA BIOGRAPHIES (VOLUME IV by THOMAS McADORY OWEN))

Based on my independent research, I have identified several errors or discrepancies in the Biography of E. L. Vardaman as published in the History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biographies (Vol. IV) by Thomas McAdory Owen.

(1) The subject of this biography is Edwy Liles Vardaman, son of Thomas Vardaman and Annie Vining and grandson of James Vardaman of Newberry County, SC. While the name "Edwy" is rather unusual, it is correct. This name not only appears on various legal records but has been passed down to at least two subsequent generations of his descendants.

(2) E. L. Vardaman was not born in Newberry County, SC, although his father, Thomas Vardaman, was born in the Dutch Fork area of old 96 District which was later included in Newberry County when it was formed in 1782.

E. L.'s parents, Thomas and Annie (Vining) Vardaman, were married in Jefferson County, GA, (Annie's home) in 1804. They were still residents of Jefferson County when Thomas won a prize in the 1805 Georgia Land Lottery. His parcel was located in that portion of newly created (1803) Baldwin County which would become, in 1807, Morgan County. Records indicate that Thomas was in Morgan Co. by 1808.

In view of the above, it is apparent that E. L. was born in Jefferson Co., GA. Although the biography doesn't include a birth date, his memorial in Smyrna Cemetery in Coosa Co., AL, shows his date of birth as Feb. 2, 1804. In view of the year of his parents marriage (1804), I believe that his correct year of birth was 1805.

(3) There is absolutely no evidence that Thomas Vardaman ever resided in Jasper County, GA. He did live in Jefferson, Morgan, Putnam and Meriwether Counties, GA, before finally settling in Coosa Co., AL. Jasper County is next to Putnam Co. and was formed at the same time (1807) as Morgan, Putnam and Jones Counties. All four counties were formed from territory obtained in the Creek Indian concessions of 1805. This land was initially placed in Baldwin County prior to the formation of the four counties mentioned.

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Vardaman Family

- 2 -

(4) Whether the Vardamans were of German descent is a moot point at this time. There exists a considerable body of evidence indicating that the family is of Swedish origin instead.

(5) As evidenced by the 1783 will of William Vardaman of Newberry County, SC, there were four Vardaman brothers (or half-brothers) rather than three. The eldest brother, John, is not mentioned in this biography.

(6) While the elder William Vardaman may have been born prior to arriving in America, his sons most surely were not. William is probably the son of a John Vardaman who left a will in New Castle Co., DL, in 1714. At the time the will was written he was a minor. He later married in Wilmington, DL, in 1720. In any event, the elder William appears in Virginia records as early as 1733 and it seems clear that his four sons did not come to America from Europe but were all born in colonial America, probably Virginia, although the oldest, John, could possibly have been born in Delaware.

(5) It was John who settled in Kentucky, not William. Both William and Peter remained in Virginia until after the Revolutionary War while the elder William, with his youngest son, James, migrated to SC in 1766. Peter later joined his older brother in Kentucky and William eventually settled in Wilkes Co., GA.

(6) E. L. Vardaman never lived in South Carolina. He was born in Jefferson Co., GA, and raised in Putnam Co., GA, where he lived from 1810 to 1828 or 1829. He married Lucinda Mauk, the daughter of a neighbor, in Putnam County on Jan. 6, 1825 (not 1824). They were married by Rev. Richard Pace, pastor of the Crooked Creek Baptist Church of Putnam County, where several of the Vardaman family were members. He moved to Meriwether County around 1828 or 1829 where he remained until 1849 when he removed to Tallapoosa County, AL, settling in the northwest portion of the county in an area known at that time as Pinckneyville.

(7) E. L. and Lucinda had only 13 children. In the list in the biography, child no. 14 (John F.) is the same person as child no. 4 (also John F.). Child no. 13 (Mielda) and no. 8 (Mienda) were twins.

J. H. Vardaman
361 Wright's Mill Ct.
Alpharetta, GA 30201

Revised August 23, 1992

HISTORY
OF
ALABAMA
AND
DICTIONARY
OF
ALABAMA BIOGRAPHY

BY
THOMAS McADORY OWEN

IN FOUR VOLUMES
VOLUME IV

WITH NEW INTRODUCTION
BY
MILO B. HOWARD, JR.



THE REPRINT COMPANY, PUBLISHERS
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

1978

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Vardaman Family

1706

DICTIONARY OF ALABAMA BIOGRAPHY

essor of mathematics and president of Cooper institute, 1896-99; president of the Martin female institute, Pulaski, Tenn., 1899-1900; chairman of faculty and professor of mathematics, Athens female college, Athens, 1900-01; superintendent of the city schools of Decatur, 1901-04; superintendent of the city schools of Water Valley, Miss., 1904, to January 1, 1907; president of the Fifth District agricultural school, Wetumpka; principal of the Centerville and Roanoke high schools; and is now superintendent of the Bessemer schools. He has been president of Elmore Teachers' Association, and is a member of the Alabama Educational Association, and of the National Educational Association. He is a Democrat, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, Mason, Knight of Pythias, Woodman of the World, and a member of Sigma Nu fraternity. Married: July 9, 1896, at Sardis, Miss., to Marie Alpheus Young, daughter of Alpheus Franklin and Louise Josephine (Perry) Young, who lived at Sardis, Miss.; granddaughter of Cornelius Bryant Young, and of Burl R. Perry. Children: 1. Leonard L., Jr. 2. Felix Young. Residence: Bessemer.

VARDAMAN, PETER B., planter, was born in Newberry District, S. C., and died in July, 1878, in Clay County; son of Thomas and Annie (Vining) Vardaman, the former who was a native of Dutch Fork, resided in Jasper County, Ga., and Jefferson County, Ga., Putnam County, Ga., Meriwether County, Ga., and finally, in 1836, settled in Coosa County; grandson of James Vardaman, of German descent, one of three brothers, Peter, James, and William, who came to America in the early part of the eighteenth century, of whom Peter settled in Virginia, William in Kentucky and James, in South Carolina, settled in Dutch Fork, Newberry district, S. C. Mr. Vardaman remained in South Carolina, until 1827, when he removed to Meriwether County, Ga., and remained there until the winter of 1848-49. He represented Meriwether County in the Georgia legislature in 1847, and in 1849, removed to Alabama, first settling in the northwestern part of Tallapoosa County, and later removing to Coosa County, and still later to Clay County, where he spent the remainder of his life. Married: January 6, 1824, in Putnam County, Ga., to Lucinda K. Mauk. Children: 1. Cynthia, Clay County, m. Kenney M. Hannan, deceased; 2. Frances C., m. George V. House; 3. Mary B., m. Edward M. Adair; 4. John F.; 5. Zilpha T., m. J. M. L. McPhail; 6. Adeline E.; 7. Annie L., m. B. F. Luker; 8. Meinda, d. in childhood; 9. Minerva, d. in childhood; 10. Nancy, d. in childhood; 11. William F., private in Co. A, Fourteenth Alabama Infantry, C. S. Army, killed at the battle of Williamsburg, Va.; 12. James M., private in Co. C, Sixtieth Alabama Infantry, C. S. Army, was killed below Petersburg; 13. Milda V., deceased, m. I. T. Kilpatrick; 14. John F., served in Co. C, Hilliard's legion, C. S. Army, farmer and teacher, m. Julia Flynn. Last residence: Clay County.

VARNER, JOSEPH, soldier of the American Revolution, and a resident of Clarke County;

private, particular service not shown; enrolled on May 8, 1833, under act of Congress of June 7, 1832, payment to date from September 4, 1835; annual allowance, \$72.—*Pension Book*, State Branch Bank, Mobile.

VARY, JOHN FOSTER, lawyer, was born July 18, 1811, in Oneida County, N. Y., and died September 8, 1899, at Marion; son of Richard H. and Deborah (Foster) Vary, the former who was a native of Oneida County, N. Y., and a farmer; grandson of John and Maria Foster, who lived in De Kalb, N. Y. His paternal grandfather came to this country from England in the early days of the revolutionary trouble. He was under a commission from the crown, but decided not to return to England, and settled in New York. Mr. Vary attended the schools of his county, was graduated from Potsdam seminary, Potsdam, N. Y., and a year later at the age of twenty years, set out for Cincinnati to find employment. He became acquainted with two trustees of the school in Columbus, Miss., and they engaged his services. He remained there until he went to Demopolis, where he engaged in teaching and at the same time read law in the office of Frank Lyon. In 1850, he was admitted to the bar in Marengo County. He first began to practice at Linden and later in Marion. He was a Democrat, Baptist and a Mason. Married: (1) April 17, 1850, at Linden, to Amarantha Brooks, who died in 1857, daughter of William Middleton and Elizabeth (Watson) Brooks, and a sister of William McClint Brooks (q. v.); (2) in March, 1859, to Rachel W. Moore, who died October, 1914, daughter of Wooten and Elizabeth (Tooley) Moore, who came to Perry County, from near Raleigh, N. C., in 1831. Children, by first marriage: 1. John F. Jr., d. in infancy; 2. Elbert Middleton, d. at Jacksonville, Fla., in 1882, m. Ida Walker, children, Foster B., Jacksonville, Fla., and Elbert H., Atlanta, Ga.; by second marriage: 4. Amarantha, treasurer of Judson college, Marion; 5. Wooten Moore, planter and florist, m. Annie Hurt, College Park, Ga.; 6. Bessie Deborah, Marion. Last residence: Marion.

VASSER, EDWARD MILHIOUS, physician, was born March 12, 1832, near Pleasant Hill, Dallas County, and died February 3, 1879, in Dallas County; son of Dr. John Edward Vasser of that place, a physician of prominence in the community; grandson of Littleberry Vasser, a native of Cotton County, Va. He was educated by private instruction in the home, later attended school in Selma and read medicine under Dr. William Townsend of Carlowville, Dallas County, entered upon the practice near Cahaba in 1852 and ten years later entered the Confederate army as assistant surgeon in the hospitals in Ringgold, Ga., and later at Rome. He was a Douglas Whig, opposed to secession but stood by his state after it withdrew from the union; a member of the Alabama Medical Association; an Episcopalian, and a Mason. Married: August 23, 1858, in Lowndes County to Elizabeth Ancrum, daughter of Dr. Adam Brisbane and Mary Rebecca (Atkins) Arthur who lived at Montgomery Hill, Baldwin County; granddaughter of Col. Adam Fowler and Mary

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Vardaman Family

Addendum to critiques of biographical sketches
of John F. and Edwy L. Vardaman:

Since writing my critiques (enclosed) of the John F. and Edwy L. Vardaman bio sketches, new information has come to light that has caused me to reconsider some of my conclusions, as follows:

(1) The birthdate of E. L. Vardaman, Feb. 2, 1804, as shown on his memorial at Smyrna Cemetery, is now reported to have come from an old family Bible. Although I have not seen this Bible, if true, this would tend to substantiate this date as the date of his birth and invalidate the date of Feb. 2, 1805, that I had previously interpolated.

This in turn would tend to invalidate the 1804 date of his parents marriage as had been previously reported. The 1804 marriage date had been obtained from the writings of an old Vining family researcher but was not substantiated in any way nor was there any explanation as to the source of this date.

(2) I have just recently obtained a copy of certain estate records from Newberry Co., SC, which place Thomas Vardaman in Newberry County on Feb. 8, 1805. I had previously discounted any possibility of Thomas having returned to SC after his marriage to Annie Vining because of his participation in the 1805 Georgia Land Lottery as a resident of Jefferson Co., GA.

(3) I have now learned that the sign-up period for the 1805 Georgia Land Lottery was 1803-04. Thomas could easily have left GA after enrolling and been in Newberry Co., SC, in 1805.

After taking the above facts into consideration, and until such time as new evidence presents itself, my conclusion is that Edwy L. Vardaman was in fact born on Feb. 2, 1804. His parents were probably married sometime early in 1803 in Jefferson Co., GA, rather than 1804. Thomas Vardaman had been a resident of Jefferson Co. for at least 3 years prior to signing up for the 1805 Lottery - at least since 1800, having probably come there with his brothers prior to brother William's marriage to Ruth Vining in 1801.

Since all census records for E. L. Vardaman (1850, 1860 and 1870) show his place of birth as GA, and this is confirmed on the 1880 census records of 6 of his 7 children, I conclude that he was born in Jefferson Co., GA, prior to his father's return to SC. Thomas Vardaman then, together with his wife Annie and son Edwy, had returned to Newberry Co., SC, after his son's birth in February, 1804, and was there in Feb., 1805.

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Vardaman Family

Subsequently, Thomas Vardaman returned to GA with his family to take possession of the prize - land in what would become Morgan Co., GA, that he had won in the 1805 Lottery. He probably arrived in then Baldwin Co. (later Morgan Co.) ca 1806-07.

J. H. Vardaman

February 21, 1993

The birth of Thomas Vardaman is not recorded in any of the early censuses of Baldwin Co. (later Morgan Co.) or in the 1805 Lottery records. The only record of his birth is in the 1805 Lottery records, where he is listed as the son of John Vardaman and Mary Vardaman. The 1805 Lottery records are the only records of his birth, and they are the only records of his birth that I have seen.

I have just received a copy of the 1805 Lottery records from the Georgia Archives. The records are in two volumes, and they are the only records of the 1805 Lottery that I have seen. The records are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives, and they are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives. The records are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives, and they are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives.

I have now learned that the 1805 Lottery records are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives, and they are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives. The records are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives, and they are in the original handwriting of the Georgia Archives.

After taking the above facts into consideration, and with such time as now evidence presents itself, my conclusion is that John Vardaman was in fact born on the 21st of February, 1805, in Baldwin Co., GA, rather than 1804. Thomas Vardaman had been a resident of Jefferson Co., GA, at least since 1800, having probably come there with his parents. He had been a resident of Jefferson Co., GA, at least since 1800, having probably come there with his parents.

Since all census records for Baldwin Co. (later Morgan Co.) show his place of birth as GA, and this is confirmed in the 1805 Lottery records, I conclude that he was born in Baldwin Co., GA, prior to his father's return to GA. Thomas Vardaman then, together with his wife Mary and son John, had returned to Baldwin Co., GA, after his son's birth in February, 1804, and was there in 1805.